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FOUNDERS
OF THE
FRENCH REPUBLIC,
AND OF OTHER Adolphus
EMINENT CHARACTERS,
WHO HAVE DISTINGUISHED THEMSELVES
DURING THE PROGRESS OF
THE REVOLUTION.

A New Edition, with Corrections and Additions.

VOL. I.
CONTAINING 114 CHARACTERS.

LONDON;
PRINTED FOR R. PHILLIPS, No. 71, ST. PAUL'S
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vol 1

Dr.

Chas. Harris

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May 28. 1888

P R E F A C E

TO

THE NEW EDITION.

A Very large Impression of the First Edition of this Volume was sold in the course of a few months. Translations of it have appeared on the Continent, in several different languages, and it has been reprinted in Ireland and America.

Stimulated and flattered by so many unequivocal testimonies of approbation, the Proprietor was induced to extend his plan to a SECOND VOLUME; the favourable reception of which has scarcely been exceeded by that of the former.

In complying with the wishes of the Public, expressed by a constant demand for a NEW EDITION, neither labour nor expence has been spared to render it at once correct and complete. The articles have in general been continued down to the present time; and so numerous indeed have been the corrections, amendments and alterations, throughout the Volume, that the New Edition assumes,

fumes, in a great measure, the appearance and character of a New Work.

It may not be improper here to observe, that none of the tears shed over the memory of those who fell the martyrs of principle—whatever were their political or religious opinions—have here been wiped away ; while at the same time fresh execrations have been heaped on the memories of those who, under the pretext of supporting public liberty, aimed a mortal stab at the heart of freedom, through the vitals of humanity. An endeavour has at the same time been made, to soar above the clamour of national prejudices, and the narrow spirit of party politics, in order to attain that liberality of sentiment, which anticipates the decisions of impartial posterity.

London, March 1, 1799.

Lately has been published, by R. PHILLIPS, price half a crown each, Three of the most admired of the Plays of the celebrated KOTZEBUE, faithfully translated from the German by Miss PLUMPTRE, viz.

THE NATURAL SON (LOVERS VOWS).

THE COUNT of BURGUNDY.

THE VIRGIN of the SUN.

And in the course of March will be published, Two other favourite Dramas by the same Author, viz.

THE VOLUNTARY SACRIFICE, and

THE DEATH of ROLLA.

PREFACE

P R E F A C E

TO

THE FIRST EDITION.

THE Editor of this Volume of BIOGRAPHICAL ANECDOTES, presents it to the Public with some degree of confidence. Whatever may be its literary merit, it at least possesses, with respect to materials, the recommendation of Novelty. No Work, embracing the same object, has yet appeared either in this Country, or on the Continent: it is therefore obvious, that the collector can have been little indebted to the labours of contemporaries, and may, without presumption, lay claim to public attention on account of the originality of his information.

It may, perhaps, excite some surprise, that the Editor should have been enabled to form a Work, not contemptible in size, wholly consisting of original sketches of characters, which have, in the course of the French Revolution,

revolution,

volution, started in such vast numbers, from obscurity into eminence, and some account will reasonably be required of the authenticity of the sources from which such minute details have been supplied. Though various circumstances, which it is unnecessary to specify, prevent the particular mention of the persons to whom he stands indebted for information, he can assure his Readers, that he has received ample communications from various well-informed Foreigners, some of whom have been personally connected with the events which they relate; and also from Englishmen, who have resided in France during nearly the whole period of the Revolution. Were he permitted to add their names, they would reflect no small degree of respectability upon his Work. For its authenticity, however, he can confidently vouch; as he has relied, not upon vague rumour, but upon direct information from persons intimately conversant with the facts, and well acquainted with the characters which are the subject of these Memoirs.

After the Editor's utmost care, it is probable that many inaccuracies may have escaped correction. In collecting fugitive information,

tion, and recording the events of the passing day, some indulgence for trivial oversights may be claimed. If Gallicisms should sometimes be detected, the Reader will have the candour to recollect, that a great part of the materials for this Work was furnished by Frenchmen. Should any material errors in point of fact have escaped the Editor, he earnestly solicits speedy correction, and more complete information.

In exhibiting characters now, or lately living, it was impracticable to attempt any distinct classification, or chronological arrangement; but an endeavour has been made to supply, in some measure, this defect, by means of an Alphabetical Table of Contents.

Upon the interesting nature of this publication, it is wholly unnecessary to expatiate. Memorials of men who have borne an active, and many of them a principal part, in one of the greatest events in the moral and political history of the world, must interest every one who wishes well to his species. It is impossible to recollect without horror, that about one half of the persons mentioned in this Volume, have fallen victims to political prenyzy under the guillotine. The sudden and astonishing

nishing vicissitudes of fortune, exhibited in the condition of individuals, afford a most instructive lesson to their cotemporaries. The dreadful waste of human talents and virtues, and also of human existence, which has accompanied this grand effort for the recovery of political freedom, must fill every benevolent mind with infinite regret. Nor can any thing relieve the painful feelings excited by the first part of this distressing drama, but the “trembling hope” of a happy termination, in which the VAST PRICE which has been paid for the purchase of liberty, will be abundantly recompensed in the happiness of COUNTLESS MILLIONS yet unborn.

No. 71, St. Paul's Church-Yard,

Sept. 24, 1797.

About the middle of March will be published, a new, corrected, and enlarged Edition, of the popular and much approved Work, entitled, PUBLIC CHARACTERS of 1798, consisting of Biographical Memoirs of Eighty of the most distinguished Personages now living, who are natives of Great Britain or Ireland, with Thirty Characteristic Portraits, price 8s. 6d. boards. Two thousand copies of the first edition of this work were sold within the space of five weeks!

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Of all Booksellers may be had, with a good allowance to Schools, The BRITISH NEPOS, or Youths' Biographical Mirror, consisting of lives of illustrious Britons, written purposely for the use of Schools and of British Youth, by WILLIAM MAVOR, LL. D. Vicar of Hurley, in Berkshire, price 4s. 6d. bound.

FOUNDERS

OF THE

FRENCH REPUBLIC.

THE DIRECTORY.

NO sooner had the French overturned the Monarchy, than a grand object presented itself to their consideration: this was the formation of a different species of government.

A model entirely new, in name, and form, but not in principle, was then resorted to for the management of the Executive Power, and termed the **DIRECTORY**. It consists of five. It is the chief, and superintendent of all the other constituted authorities; it possesses the initiative, or decision in the first instance, respecting treaties of peace, or declarations of war; the management of the armies, and the nomination to a variety of important public employments, are also within its sphere of action.

The members, one of whom is chosen annually by the legislature, live in great state at the Luxembourg, now called the **DIRECTORIAL PALACE**; receive military honours after the manner of the

ancient kings ; are surrounded by a chosen guard of horse and foot ; clothed in magnificent apparel ; and maintained sumptuously at the public expence.

I.

BARRAS.

It is worthy of remark, that the Nobles who, at the beginning of the French Revolution, sided with the popular party, and made a voluntary surrender of their titles, belonged, in general, to the oldest and most illustrious houses, while the Nobility of mushroom growth were, almost to a man, highly indignant at finding themselves confounded anew with the plebeian herd from which they had been so recently set apart.

Paul-François-Jean-Nicolas Barras is one of the former class. When in the South of France the honour of springing from an illustrious race was ascribed to any individual, it was customary to say that he was as noble as a Barras ; and of the family of Barras, that it was as old as the rocks of Provence.

The *ci-devant* Viscomte de Barras was born at Foxemphoux, in the department of the * Var, on the 30th of June, 1755. He commenced his military career at an early age, in the regiment of Dragoons of Languedoc ; and was soon after promoted to the rank of Sub-Lieutenant in the same

* Formerly included in Provence

corps, in which he remained till the year 1775. Having at that epoch made a voyage to the Isle of France, of which one of his relations was Governor, and finding that there were strong appearances of a war breaking out in India, he solicited and obtained his exchange into the regiment of Pondicherry, and, in the course of the following year, embarked for the coast of Coromandel.

In his voyage thither, the ship was overtaken by a tremendous storm, and driven, in the midst of midnight darkness, upon sunken rocks, at no great distance from the Maldivé Islands. In that dreadful situation, when the crew had abandoned themselves to despair, Barras who still preserved his presence of mind, roused them from their stupor, and revived their hopes. The construction of a raft was unanimously resolved upon. A raft was accordingly formed; and while every body else hurried out of the ship, which seemed to be going to pieces, Barras stood looking coolly on, and was one of the last who set his foot upon the floating bridge. It conveyed them in safety to a small island inhabited by savages, whose menacing demeanour kept them in constant dread of having only escaped from death in one shape to meet with it in another, till, at the end of a month's miserable existence, they were succoured, and conveyed to Pondicherry.

After the surrender of that place, Barras, and many other prisoners embarked for Europe, and in their passage home, fell in with an English ship of war, which

unluckily mistook the white flag, meant to designate a cartel, for the French colours. The consequence was a heavy cannonade, which was kept up for a long time, though only returned by the cries of the defenceless crew. Every body ran below; the water flowed fast through the shot-holes; and it is probable that the *Sartine* would soon have been sent to the bottom, if Barras had not walked through a shower of balls with admirable *sang-froid*, and hauled down the supposed signal of resistance from the ensign-staff.

He next embarked on board Suffrein's squadron; was present at the action in Port Praya Bay; and served afterwards with a body of his countrymen under Gen. Conway, at the Cape of Good Hope. On his return to Paris, the seductions of that capital were too powerful for a man of his southern temperament, and professional education, to resist. Amorous intrigues and gaming, the almost exclusive occupations of the French military under the old government, by turns engaged his attention. His good fortune in the one way, and his bad success in the other, had an equal tendency to empty his purse; and are said to have elevated him to the fourth story of an obscure hotel.

At length the Revolution approached, and gave his energies, both of body and mind, a new, if not a more profitable direction. On the ever-memorable 14th of July, and 10th of August, he was an *active Citizen* in the attack of the '*King's Castle*,'
and

and shortly after the latter æra, was appointed a * Juror of the High National Court; but from that duty he was discharged by the interference of a horde of assassins, who basely and deliberately murdered the prisoners at Versailles, in their way from Orleans to Paris.

Sent as a representative of the people to the National Convention: Barras joined the Jacobins and voted for the death of the King, though it does not appear that he was particularly attached to the mountain party, till after the proscription of the † Girondists on the 31st of May. The events of that day being reported to him, by the triumphant faction, during his absence on a public mission, he was induced by deception, by weakness, or by necessity, to acquiesce, if not to join, in the violent plans they pursued.

Several portions of the Republic saw the attack upon the national representation in a different light, and refused to submit to the authority of Robespierre. Among these was Toulon, which not only revolted, but delivered up its port and shipping to the enemy.

Barras was dispatched thither as National Commissioner. Upon his arrival he found that a correspondence was established between the mutineers in the fleet,

* *Juré à la haute cour nationale.*

† Notwithstanding his enmity to the party of the *Gironde*, he protected, and still continues to patronise, Bergoein, now the only surviving member of that illustrious and unfortunate deputation.

and those in the army assembling at Nice; and that General Brunet was preparing to follow Admiral Trogoff's example, by admitting the English into his camp. On this he immediately left the place in search of means to defeat the treacherous project. His purpose was suspected by the conspirators; he was pursued; the *tocfin* was rung in order to raise the country upon him; his estate was ravaged; a price was set upon his head; and at Pignans an attack was made upon his carriage: but with the assistance of his trusty sabre, and two faithful dragoons, he found means to get on horseback, and escape to St. Tropez. There he procured a boat, set off for Nice in the dead of night, landed unexpectedly, and ventured to arrest General Brunet in the midst of his army.

His exhortations having revived the patriotism of the soldiers, he led them against Toulon, organized the columns that had assembled under it's walls, headed that of the left at the assault of Fort Pharon, and after two nights fighting and fatigue restored the port, and part of the shipping, to the Republic. It was at this siege that he discovered the hitherto latent genius of Buonaparte, and by placing him at the head of the artillery, gave to France a General, whose exploits were thought, for a time, to extend

“Beyond all Greek, beyond all Roman fame.”

On entering the town, Barras informed the Convention, “*that the only patriots he had found there,*
were

were the galley-slaves." This observation would leave little doubt of his having been principally concerned in the cruel executions that ensued, if his subsequent conduct at Marseilles did not furnish a contrary presumption. A plan having been laid in that place to massacre the prisoners, Barras gave orders to arrest the authors of it, and sent them before the revolutionary tribunal. This was a high crime and misdemeanor in the eyes of the men of blood, who then domineered over the Republic. They accordingly recalled him, and three different times issued warrants for his arrest, but as often countermanded their execution, so much did they dread the effect of his impetuous despair and well-tryed courage.

Notwithstanding the intimations he received of his danger, he refused to quit his house even during the night. He however provided for his defence, and let his enemies know that he was prepared to inflict death on any of their satellites who should attempt to take him into custody.

In order to get rid of him, they then proposed to send him to the army of the Rhine, but he refused to go, saying that his presence was necessary in the Convention. He proved it to their sorrow—He was the last speaker in the debate that preceded their punishment on the 9th of Thermidor, as well as commander of the armed force which overcame the popularity of the Dictator Robespierre, and the for-

midable cannoneers led on by the ferocious Henriot and Coffinhal.

On two other occasions he rendered a like service to the Convention: when the *Fauxbourg St. Antoine*, by the instigation of the remaining terrorists, broke into the hall, and murdered Ferrand, a representative of the people; and when some of the sections of Paris opposed the decrees by which it was determined that two-thirds of the old legislature should enter into the composition of the new.

However this may be, the value of his assistance on the 13th of Vendemiaire, was so conspicuous in the eyes of the legislative body, that it was the immediate cause of his obtaining a seat in the directory, which he filled, as he did his former employments, in defiance of a law, excluding the relations of emigrants from all places of trust.*

His public conduct since his elevation to the first post in the Republic, has been so implicated in that of his colleagues, that it is difficult to separate the due portion of praise or reproach that belongs to him. From his decisive character, however, it may be affirmed without hazard, that he had a large share in the measures which have recently occasioned the expulsion of two of those colleagues, and their subse-

* His brother, a knight of Malta, died while serving in the Prince of Condé's army. It was said, also, that he was within the age prescribed by law for a director, but the production of the certificate of his baptism refuted the latter charge.

quent transportation, along with a number of members of the legislative body. Indeed, it is now well known, that it was he who invited a detachment of the army to the neighbourhood of Paris; that he also brought Hoche thither with a view to strike a decisive blow against his adversaries, and that after being foiled in his first attempt, through the jealousy of the Council of Five Hundred, he succeeded at length, by means of his well known perseverance and intrepidity.

The success that has crowned Barras in so many enterprises, and his escape from so many dangers, will naturally be attributed to an uncommon share of good fortune; but a great part of both is no doubt due to that strength of nerve, that soundness of judgement, and that speed of decision, which render a man, in a manner, the master of events. This vigour of mind is accompanied, probably produced, by great vigour of body.

Barras is tall, robust, and handsome, and when at a public festival he is adorned with the Directorial robe of purple, the scarlet mantle, and a plume of tricoloured feathers, his figure is altogether noble and commanding; his skin, however, is of a yellow hue, a circumstance which has not escaped the observation and satire of the Royalist faction.

Abused by one party and panegyrised by another, he is allowed on all hands to possess more genius than learning, and more activity than information. His manners, without having the daz-

zling polish of the old court, are on the whole prepossessing; and though speaking little himself, he excels in the art of making other people betray their secrets and communicate their knowledge.

Nature, in a word, has made him a great man without the aid of artificial acquirements.*

II.

MERLIN OF DOUAY,

From a poor hovel, has attained the fifth share of a throne, in the most powerful nation on the globe: for, his father was a cottager at Anchem, a village about seven miles from Douay.

In the Abbey of Ancheim, Merlin, while a boy, was placed as a servant: he attended the Monks when performing mass, and was also an *Enfant de Chœur*, or *Chorister*. He, however, resided among the domestics, and on extraordinary occasions waited on company in the dining-room.

* “ *Le plus grand et le plus bel homme parmi les cinq directeurs, est BARRAS. Il est agréable et gai en société; mais des que le danger de la patrie l'appelle au combat, il est un des plus braves défenseurs de la République.*

“ *Il s'est acquis surtout cette réputation à la dernière émeute des sections, le 13 Vendémiaire, (5 Octobre,) à laquelle il a l'obligation de sa place de Directeur, après le refus de Sieyes et l'omission du profond Cambaceres.*

“ *Barras, qui dirige à présent le département de la police, était un officier distingué par son intrépidité, d'une famille d'ancien noblesse militaire de Provence. Son oncle le Viscomte de Barras, s'était aussi distingué comme un brave guerrier, &c.*” —Fragments sur Paris, par F. J. L. Meyer, L.L.D. tom. i. p. 220.

Being a smart, ready lad, a Monk kindly undertook to teach him to read; and perceiving that he had a great inclination to improve, persuaded the Brotherhood to send him to the College of Douay. In this seminary he soon distinguished himself in the most honourable manner among his fellow students.

The Monks of Ancheim wished to make a priest of him; he however entreated that they would permit him to study law. The Brotherhood accordingly allowed him to follow his inclination; and, during the period of his studies, supplied him with whatever money he wanted.

As soon as he was admitted a Counsellor in the Parliament of Douay, his old benefactors intrusted him with the conduct of the affairs of their Abbey; and obtained the same office for him from the Chapter of Cambray, the revenues of which, being very considerable, produced him a handsome income.—In short, so well were the Monks satisfied with his conduct, that they brought about an union between him and a lady of great property, who was sister to one of the Brotherhood. After being settled in this comfortable manner, they procured him, partly by purchase and partly by interest, the office of *Secretary to the King*; which however was attended with no other advantages than that of rendering his family noble, after twenty years retention.

At the election of the States General, he was nominated Deputy for the *Tiers Etat* of French

Flanders ; a circumstance that roused the envy of his colleagues, who were accustomed to call him *l'Ecervelé Merlin*. When he first arrived at Paris, he took a second floor for himself and his wife, in one of the streets near the Palace Royal.

Though retired in appearance, he often received visits from Mirabeau, and other members ; and soon found means to distinguish himself, by acting a very brilliant part in the Committee of Feodality. It was he, indeed, who first proposed the equal division of the paternal inheritance among all the children, in opposition to the barbarous practice adopted by vanity and sanctioned by custom, in consequence of which, the whole patrimony was squandered on the eldest son.

Merlin, as well as Camus, is indebted for all he possesses to the Church ; and, like him too, he became one of its greatest enemies ; for having a complete knowledge of ecclesiastical affairs, he was the better enabled to denounce its corruptions and abuses.

At the end of the first assembly, the Department of Paris offered him a chair in its tribunal, but he refused it and accepted a similar situation in that of Douay, observing "that the place of his nativity demanded and had a right to the preference."

When the Convention was convoked, Merlin was once more elected a deputy, by his former constituents ; but he was little heard of during the reign of the Girondists. When the revolutionary govern-

ment took place, he moved the famous decree of the 17th September, relative to *suspected persons*, and the no less famous law of the 7th *Nivose*, concerning the equal succession of sons to the inheritance of their parents.

No sooner was the faction of Robespierre overthrown, than Merlin became a member of the Committee of Public Safety, and superintended the important department of foreign affairs. It was he who supervised the correspondence between the committee and M. Barthelemy, lately one of the Directors, and then a diplomatic agent in Switzerland, relative to some negotiations for a partial peace; it was he also who presented the foreign ministers to the Convention. His speech on introducing Quirini, the Venitian ambassador is much celebrated.

When the French were defeated, by Marechal de Clairfait, on the right bank of the Rhine, during the autumn of 1795, Merlin accused Carnot, as the original cause of that disaster, the latter having issued orders, in express opposition to the general opinion of the committee, that Pichegru should pass that river, without calculating the dangers he might be exposed to from the want of provisions. He had also a dispute with Boissy d'Anglas, another member of the same committee, on his opposition to the union of Belgium with the French Republic.

On the organization of the new constitution, Merlin was elected Minister of Justice; in consequence

of

of this, the Royalists gave him the nickname of *le chancelier d'Aguesseau*. Being placed soon after in another conspicuous department,* they observed "that the author of the law against suspected persons, was alone worthy of being entrusted with the *police* of the Republic!" In short, every thing done by him is termed in derision by the Royalists, a *merlinade*!

Notwithstanding this, on the 8th of September, 1797, he was invested with the Directorial purple, in the room of Barthelemy, who had been banished.

Merlin is of a short stature and dark complexion. His dress is plain, and his exterior bespeaks much modesty. He is about 45 years of age.

III.

REVEILLIERE LEPAUX,

formerly called La Reveilliere de L'Epaux.

It is with the qualities of men's minds; as with the natural productions of the earth. Every paltry pebble obtrudes itself upon the eye, while gold and diamonds lie hid beneath the surface.

Before the Revolution, the name and merit of Reveillere Lepaux were unknown, or limited at least to a very narrow circle. He was born, August 25, 1753, at Montaigne, in the department of La Vendée, and received his education at Angers.

* That of *Ministre de la Police*.

After having completed a course of legal studies, he repaired to Paris, with the intention of practising as an advocate; but he soon abandoned the bar, when he found that integrity was an impediment, and unprotected talents no passport to success.

On his return to his native province, he devoted his leisure to the study of natural history; and was successively the founder of a botanical garden, and the professor of botany, at Angers, where he resided four months of the year, during which he delivered lectures. The rest of his time he spent with his family at an estate which he possessed in a small village called Faye, situated upon the banks of the river Layon.

In this philosophical system of life he persevered, till he was chosen a Deputy to the National Assembly, of which he was rather an useful than a shining member, having scarcely ever rendered himself remarkable, unless by the vehemence with which he opposed the pretensions of the clergy and nobles, and demanded their union with the *third estate*.

After the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly, he was appointed Administrator of the department of the Maine and Loire. At that time the discontent of the inhabitants of La Vendée was beginning to manifest itself, and even then announced the explosion which afterwards took place. With a view to prevent it, he formed a society of patriots, who went about preaching the principles of liberty, at fairs and wakes. But the Royalists, who had also their missionaries, prevailed; and Reveilliere
and

and his associates would have been murdered, if some of the military had not interfered in their defence.

When the National Convention was convoked, he was elected a Member, and voted both for the Republic and the death of the King*. This did not prevent his becoming obnoxious to the *mountain* party, who hated his stubborn temper, and dreaded his penetrating eye.

His principal offence was a paper called *le Cromwellisme*, published in the *Chronique de Paris*, and signed with his name; in which he very happily compared the Parisian demagogues to Cromwell's levellers, and shewed how well he had divined their ambitious and tyrannical designs. A few months after, when they were completely triumphant, he resigned his seat; and knowing well that he had sinned beyond the measure of forgiveness, fled from Paris, though he was not one of the members formally proscribed. During the rest of Robespierre's reign, he wandered about from hiding-place to hiding-place, with not only his own head under the axe of the guillotine, but those of his friends who kindly afforded him an asylum.

As soon as Robespierre was dead, Reveilliere reappeared among the living, and resumed his situation

* It was Lepaux who moved and carried the famous decree of the 19th November 1792, which was ordered to be printed in all languages, and held out an offer of fraternity to all oppressed nations who were desirous to become free.

in the Convention: where he was greatly instrumental in completing the Constitution, and in carrying it into effect. An ambitious faction, making a pretence of the commotions that took place on the 13th Vendemiaire, proposed to stop the elections, and to postpone the new system of Government. Reveilliere turned towards them: "What!" said he, "do wretches like you want to reign?"

"Do I not see in the midst of you a man, who after ordering a female to be stripped naked, had her shot in cold blood?" His threat to name the person he alluded to reduced them to silence.

The consideration he enjoys among his countrymen, was fully proved when he was elected a Member of the Directory. In the Council of Ancients, out of two hundred and eighteen votes, he had two hundred and sixteen. Since his elevation to the high dignity he now enjoys, he has been remarkable for his industry, most of the proclamations issued by the Directory, in critical circumstances, being the production of his pen.

In private life, the character of Reveilliere Lepaux has always been irreproachable, and in his public situation, calumny has never attached itself to his name.

To a considerable knowledge of botany, he joins a taste for the sciences, literary talents of no mean account, and a certain portion of eloquence. His constitution is weak; his complexion fallow; and his

his person diminutive. In consequence of the last of those defects, a stool was offered him to stand upon at some public festival. No! said he, alluding to his eminent situation in the Republic, and to his want of ambition; No! “*Je ne veux pas être plus grand que je ne suis?*” I wish not to be more elevated than I am at present.

His friends assert that he remains in office from principle alone, and that he pants for peace in order to enjoy domestic happiness and retirement amidst his children, his plants, and his books.

IV.

REWBELL.

JEAN REWBELL was born at Colmar, in 1746, and being bred to the bar, attained considerable eminence as an Advocate in the Sovereign Court of Alsace. Long before the Revolution, he discovered his attachment to the principles of justice, by giving his professional assistance to the individuals and villages aggrieved by the privileged orders; rather than to the *Noble Chapters*, to the Sovereign Council, and to the German Princes, who retained possessions in France, although they often asked the aid of his pen, and of his eloquence, in support of their arbitrary pretensions. On no occasion did he gain greater credit than by pleading successfully at Paris, against the late Duke of Wirtemberg, who was desirous of increasing the
burthen

burthen of *Corvées* *, which his wretched peasants were already obliged to bear.

This disposition of Rewbell was not overlooked by the people; when the government, in its dotage, blind, and decrepit, was obliged to beg the nation; so often mal-treated, to lead it along. On this occasion he was elected a Member of the States General, and distinguished himself in that brilliant crowd, where great talents were so common, and in which he acquired the reputation of an enlightened friend of liberty †. Soon after the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly he was appointed Procurator General Syndic of the Department of the Upper Rhine, and while in that station, was of great service in allaying the ferment that manifested itself upon the deposition of the King.

Nor were his talents less useful in the National Convention. He was appointed a Member of the Diplomatic Committee, and sent as a Commissioner to the Army that was shut up within the walls of Mentz. The event of that siege is well known. Not all the courage of the intrepid Merlin of Thionville, nor the wisdom and activity of Rew-

* Work done for the Lord of the Soil without any remuneration.

† On the name of the Marquis de Bouillé being mentioned as Governor to the Prince Royal, he expressed great indignation at the proposal, objecting no doubt to the political principles of that nobleman. This circumstance, trifling as it may appear, attracted public notice and procured him popularity.

bell, nor his successful efforts to harmonize the discordant minds of the soldiery and citizens, could prevent a capitulation.

He was the companion of the same brave garrison in its march against the rebels of La Vendée, and the witness of its almost entire destruction, in a country, and a species of warfare, in which valour and discipline were of little avail. But of all the merits of Rewbell, there are none so dear in the eyes of the inhabitants of the banks of the Rhine, as the pious fraud by which he contrived to protect his native country from the revolutionary horrors that desolated the rest of France: for, contrary to the real fact, he and his colleagues found means to persuade the men of blood, that in the *ci-devant* Alsace, their persons, as well as their decrees, were held in the highest reverence.

After the fall of the principal tyrants, Rewbell became a Member of the Committee of Public Safety, and was one of those who gave the severest blow to the faction emphatically styled the *Tail of Robespierre*; especially by moving, and by being the first to sign the decree that authorized the suppression of the Jacobins.

It is to Rewbell, also, that France is indebted for the peace with Prussia, and for the revival of the ancient jealousy between the Houses of Austria and Brandenburg. In managing the treaty of the Hague, which secured to his country a naval ally, and a powerful influence in the Batavian Republic, the

Abbé

Abbé Sieyes was his fellow-labourer. Such a succession of meritorious services, placed him in the Executive Directory of France, but his health has of late prevented his accustomed exertions.

Born in a country which once made part of the Germanic Empire, and which is not yet assimilated to the rest of the Republic, Rewbell has little of that polish for which Frenchmen are famed. Suspicious, harsh, and laconic, he does a favour with as great an appearance of ill-humour as other men inflict an injury. But this rough exterior incloses a sound judgment and an intrepid mind*.

V.

J. B. TREILLARD

Was bred to the bar, and practised with some degree of reputation, in the ancient courts †. He soon found, however, that the

“*Vera lex, recta ratio, naturæ congruens,*” of Cicero, was not known there. Money, patronage, beautiful women, the protection of Versailles, were all played off before the Parliament of Paris,

* It would be highly improper to omit here, that during the *equivocal* transactions at Paris, between Talleyrand the French minister for Foreign Affairs, and the American Ambassadors, Rewbell seems to have been implicated as *receiving presents*, for his protection, from the owners of Privateers.

† In 1791, he had obtained the reputation of “Un Jurisconsulte Eclairé,” and even M. de Calonne candidly acknowledges, that he was a sensible, honest, and polite man.

and those of the provinces, against a good cause; when accompanied by poverty. Procrastination, in the first instance, and too frequently injustice in the last, ensued; and these consequences inevitably led to another, in the shape of general disaffection: which, when arrived at a certain height, became one of the pre-disposing causes to produce a Revolution.

Treillard was appointed a Deputy to the States-General, and found means to distinguish himself in that celebrated assembly. In January 1790, he made a motion respecting the fate of the clergy, and the management of the estates of the church. In March he proposed the three celebrated questions concerning the destiny of those who pretended to dedicate their lives to the austerities of a secluded devotion, *viz*:

1. "Whether the religious orders shall be abolished?" 2. "What shall be the lot of secularized Monks?" And, 3. "What the allowance of those who wish to live in the house, and dress in the habit of their particular order?"

During the Legislative Assembly, Treillard appears to have acted as a Judge in the department of Paris. He was afterwards appointed a Deputy to the Convention, but did not distinguish himself during the reign of the Girondists or the triumphant career of the Mountain party.

In tranquil times, he once more came forward, and, in 1794, was the first to conceive and
execute

execute the plan, for exchanging the unfortunate daughter of Louis XVI. (*Madame Royale*) for Semonville, the ambassador, and Camus, Drouet, and the other Deputies, who had been detained within the Austrian territories ever since the defection of Dumourier.

Treillard, like many others, suffered himself to be carried away by the stream; and in 1796, on the anniversary of the execution of Louis XVI. administered, as President of the Legislative Body, the oath for the perpetual exclusion of Royalty from France, and its utter abhorrence there.

The following stanza, composed for the occasion, has been loudly censured, both by the Emigrants, and the zealots of kingly power:

“ Jurons, le glaive en main! jurons à la patrie,

Conserver toujours l'égalité chérie,

De vivre & d'espérer pour elle, & pour nos droits,

De venger l'univers opprimé par les rois.”

“ On their try'd swords a conqu'ring people swear,

The rights of equal order to revere;

T'enjoy, and hope the blessings Freedom brings,

And vindicate a world oppress'd by Kings.”

The same thing was actually said and done in this country, during the last century; when, after the execution of Charles I. his statues were pulled down, and the following inscription placed on the pedestals:

“ EXIT TYRANNUS, REGUM ULTIMUS.”

And yet there was not a Prince in all Europe who
 protested

protested against the insult offered the kingly office ; nor did a single sword " leap out of its scabbard " to vindicate regal dignity !

Having been destined by lot to leave the legislative body, Treillard accordingly vacated his seat in the Council of Five Hundred. Soon after this he repaired to Lisle, in a diplomatic capacity, with a view of bringing the negotiation to a speedy termination. This he accordingly effected, for having given in a note, signed by himself and his colleague Bonnier, demanding a categorical answer from the English ambassador, and the reply not proving satisfactory, he haughtily ordered Lord Malmesbury, in the name of the Republic, to set off, on his return home, within the space of 24 hours.

His next mission was to the famous Congress at Radstadt, where the delays on both sides have been so notorious as almost to inculcate a suspicion that none of the contending parties were very eager for peace.

From this diplomatic farce, he was called to participate in higher and more active scenes, for François de Neufchateau having ceased to be a member of the Directory, the Council of Five Hundred chose ten persons by ballot, one of whom was to be selected by the Council of Ancients, and the Minister at Radstadt was returned by a large majority *.

* The number of members who voted in his favour was 234.

Treillard was considered in the Convention as a man of extraordinary talents; his eloquence, however, was not of the first rate, for he did not rank with the Vergniaux, the Genonnés, and the Mirabeaus; notwithstanding this, he was far from being a contemptible orator.

In respect to his person and manners, he is about fifty years of age, short in stature, rather clumsy in make, but extremely affable in conversation.

CARNOT, EX-DIRECTOR.

In a despotic country, the slow pace of any proud and pampered animal is sufficient to drag along the pompous carriage of the state; but in the revolutionary and republican race, the prize is sure to be conferred on *speed* and *bottom*. Thus it was that the destinies of France, which under the old government had been often ruled by splendid ignorance, were committed after its destruction to the hands of Carnot.

Lazare Nicolas-Margueritte Carnot was born at Nolay in the *ci-devant* Burgundy on the 13th of May 1753. His family was considered as one of the most ancient in the place; but it was neither rich nor illustrious, as appears by the profession of his father, who was an Advocate, and is still alive. The son at an early period of life, entered into the corps of Engineers, and devoted his time alternately to the sciences and belles-lettres. He was successful in both. The mathematical essays pub-

published under his name, procured him admission to several learned societies; his panegyric on Marshal Vauban, which obtained the prize at the academy of Dijon, was remarkable for the force and purity of the style; while several of his fugitive pieces of poetry were written with a spirit and delicacy that would not have dishonoured the pen of Tibullus or Anacreon *.

The title of a *bel-sprit*, and the rank of a Captain of Engineers, would probably have been the only reward of these versatile talents, if the Revolution had not carried him successively into the Legislative Assembly, the National Convention, and the famous Committee of Public Welfare. When he was elected a member of the latter, the Republican armies were grown familiar with disgrace, and the iron-frontier of France was pierced by the enemy.

The war soon after assumed a very different aspect. It was now common to see the veterans of Austria flying before raw levies of national guards. Of this memorable change an example had indeed been afforded by the successful attacks of Dumourier, as irresistible and as ill-contrived for permanent conquest as the furious incursions of the ancient Gauls. But in the campaigns of 1793, and 1794, the vast and profound plans in consequence of which the French armies acted, the regularity of their progress, and the art with which their movements were combined,

The most elegant of these is entitled, "Le Fils de Venus."

astonished

astonished all the nations of Europe. They wondered what soul it was that inspired these mighty masses of men with an uniform spirit, and urged them on to simultaneous action. It was Carnot, who, in a Committee-room at Paris, broke the ranks and the league of the confederate powers, just as Archimides, from his closet in Syracuse, scattered death and destruction among the Roman legions, and set all their boasted tactics and discipline at naught.

Though this is a fact which his enemies do not deny, they have endeavoured to detract from his merit, by asserting that the ground-work of his campaigns, was borrowed from the plans of the great captains who lived in the age of Louis XIV *. But as the papers of those illustrious generals have been deposited at the War Office during the whole of

* This circumstance has been alluded to, with perhaps more wit than truth, in the following lines :

- “ Enfant gâté du poltron Robespierre,
- “ De lui d'abord tu reçus la lumière,
- “ Et bien prisant ton naturel félon,
- “ Il t'accola le *candide* Couthon,
- “ Le *doux* St. Just, & l'*ingenue* Barrere,
- “ Et ce Collot, des Lyonnais le *père*,
- “ Et pour tout dire, enfin ce *bon* Billaud,
- “ Qu'injustement on appelait *Maraud*.
- “ Dans cet egoût revolutionnaire,
- “ Dans cet tripot dit de *salut public*
- “ Il fut connu que ton minois d'aspic
- “ Suffisait seul pour diriger la guerre.

of the present century, how happens it that they have never before produced the like splendid effects?

Nor was Carnot merely the guide of the French commanders:—He sometimes vied in intrepidity with the bravest soldiers, and more than once contributed by his presence to turn the scale of victory. He was at the battle of Maubeuge, and commanded one of the columns which carried the post of Watignies by storm.

The champions of royalty, who were anxious to involve all the friends of freedom in the blame resulting from the misconduct of pseudo-patriots, endeavoured to associate the name of Carnot, with that of Robespierre. But it cannot be doubted that two distinct powers were employed to put the guillotine, and the French armies, in motion, though the *primum mobile* of both was to be found in the Committee of Public Welfare!

While Robespierre was organizing his revolutionary assassins, Carnot was employed in organizing victory. Robespierre shed a torrent of French blood: Carnot is only accountable for that of the enemy. Robespierre was the terror of his country: Carnot was known by the appellation of the *terror*.

“ *Lors des bureaux pillant tous les cartons*

“ *Et sans génie, officier de génie,*

“ *Tu vins donner avec forfanterie,*

“ *De fort beaux plans pour plans de ta façon,*

“ *Plans que jadis pour abriter ta peine*

“ *Avaient formés les Condé, les Turenne,” &c.*

of the Austrians. These truths were affirmed by the tyrant himself in one of his speeches, when he formally accused Carnot of neglecting the public weal; of taking no part in civil operations; and of directing his ambition exclusively to military power.

Carnot accordingly was not often present in the General Committee; and when there he seldom came out of it without expressing to his friends his horror of the sanguinary proceedings of his colleagues, his fear of perishing by the hands of their executioners, and the hatred and contempt he entertained for Robespierre. He did not always conceal his sentiments from the Dictator himself. One day when that blood-thirsty monster was devising new means of getting rid of his enemies, and talked of giving a more rapid impulsion to the national vengeance, Carnot looked him stedfastly in the face, and said to him in a tone of voice suggested by indignation, "*thou art no better than a cowardly tyrant!*"

He did not, however, escape the obloquy which upon the dissolution of the Committee overwhelmed his colleagues. Freron in particular said of him, that he united the wit of Barrere with the heart of Collot d'Herbois, and the head of Billaud de Varennes. Nor can it be denied that he is liable to much reproach, for continuing to act with such execrable ruffians, and offering to make a common cause with some of the least culpable, when they were brought to the bar of the Convention.

He still preserved, however, so large a portion of the public esteem, and so high a reputation for talents, that upon the establishment of the new Constitution he was chosen a Member of the Executive Government. While in that elevated station he was frequently the first to discover, and defeat the projects of the factious. It was he who repaired to the office of the Minister of Police, and devised the means of seizing, at one and the same time, Babœuf, his plans, and his principal associates; and yet it is a well known fact, that the Newspaper of that conspirator, as well as those of Mehée and Labois extolled his talents, and affirmed that he possessed the confidence of the patriots.

The reign of Carnot, however, has not been long. Suspected of favouring a party in the Legislative Body which aimed at the restoration of royalty, he has been involved in their proscription, and included in the decree by which they were condemned to transportation, without a trial.

The last circumstance renders it impossible to decide on his case. On the one hand it seems extraordinary that Carnot, who has done so much to consolidate the Republic, should meditate its destruction; and that with all his sense, he should not be aware of the danger of a King's not keeping his faith with a regicide. On the other, it must be admitted that it would be nothing wonderful if a man, whose education was conducted under the auspices of the Prince of Condé, and who bore a commission in the army of Louis XVI. should have retained a hankering
after

after the family of Bourbon, and a monarchical government. Those who are acquainted with the secret history of the Revolution, know that most of the officers, *soi-disant* patriotic, were detained in France by nothing less than their affection for the new order of things, although, for the sake of their persons and reputation, they exerted themselves strenuously in the posts which they found it convenient to occupy. On some future day we shall know the truth. At present, the most probable supposition seems to be, that Carnot did not see a necessity for the violent proceedings of the Directory, and that his opposition was construed into guilt. He was not however taken into custody with his colleague Barthelemy, and with the supposed conspirators of the Legislative Body. By some he is said to have made his escape; by others to have been killed in the attempt; a third class pretend that he is in England; we believe, however, that he is secreted in the Austrian dominions, where he obtains nothing more than bare protection.

The modesty of Carnot's manners; the simplicity of his appearance and demeanor; and his habitual taciturnity, do not seem to indicate a fit personage to "ride in the whirlwind, and direct the revolutionary storm." —The active part, however, that he has taken in civil commotions notwithstanding his quiescent temper, serves only to prove the truth of the maxim "*that great talents are capable of a very general application.*"

In case of a new war in Germany, we venture to prognosticate, that his loss will be sensibly felt ; nay there are not wanting some who assert, that all the recent disasters of France, may be attributed to this source.

FRANÇOIS DE NEUFCHATEAU, EX-DIRECTOR, AND successor of Carnot, was born at Neufchateau, a small town of Lorraine, near Nancy. He was educated for the bar, but his predominant passion was * poetry and the belles-lettres.

In the early part of his life he was an advocate in the Sovereign Court of Nancy, and wrote at that time, the History of the Common Law of Lorraine, a work which reflects much honour upon his talents, and which has ranked him among the most learned Civilians of the age. Being, however, too much attached to polite literature, to confine himself to forensic exertions, he sought for other employments more suitable to his inclinations. He accordingly went to Paris, and purchased the Office of *Procureur du Roi* in the Island of St. Domingo. In that Colony he actually passed several years, and published while there, some pamphlets upon Canon and Ecclesiastical Law. At length, however, the climate not being favourable to his constitution, he sold his office, and converting the produce into an annuity for life, settled at Paris.

* He is an associate in the *Section de Poésie* of the National Institute, and has sung the praises of the Vosges, in some charming verses.

While there, he obtained the protection of the house of Orleans, by means of the Tutoreſs of the Duke's children, * Madame de Genlis, to whom he was introduced, for the purpose of reading *Pamela*, and other sentimental novels to her pupils. In the earlier periods of the Revolution, he wrote ſeveral patriotic pieces for the ſtage, of which, the tragedy of *Spartacus* met with the higheſt approbation.

He was afterwards appointed a Deputy in the ſecond Aſſembly for the Department of Voſges. As a Legiſlator, however, he made no very brilliant figure. It is only recorded, that when, on the 27th of Auguſt, 1792, a report was made to the Aſſembly, that ſeveral Members had applied for paſſports to leave Paris, on the approach of the Pruſſian army, François de Neufchateau propoſed that all the Deputies ſhould ſwear not to leave their poſts till they were replaced by thoſe appointed to the National Convention.

Although an acknowledged patriot, he did not eſcape the perſecutions of that indifcriminating tyrant Robeſpierre. We are informed by the report of Gregoire, of the 9th Vendemiaire, third year, that he had been confined upwards of eight months, and was delivered at the opening of the priſons, ſoon after the 9th of Thermidor.

When the preſent government was conſtituted, François de Neufchateau was appointed Commiſ-

* Now Madame de Sillery.

sioner of the Executive Directory in the department of Vosges. He filled that office with much intelligence and integrity, but was censured as a severe persecutor of priestcraft and fanaticism. From this useful station he was appointed Minister of the Home Department, instead of M. de Benezech who had been dismissed. Two months afterwards he succeeded as a Director in the place of the proscribed Carnot. He did not remain long, however, in this high station, for having gone out by lot, we find him in the course of a few weeks afterwards, acting as Minister Plenipotentiary at Seltz, where he negotiated for some time with the Count de Cobenzel, who ordered his own play of *Pamela* to be performed in compliment to him.

François de Neufchateau is between forty and fifty years of age, and frequently afflicted with the gout.

LETOURNEUR, EX-DIRECTOR.

When a man has passed through a great portion of life without exciting much attention, it is fair to conclude, that if he does not possess very distinguished talents, he is at least free from any remarkable vice. This respectable mediocrity seems to be the destiny of Letourneur de la Manche. It was the station also in which he was born; his parents could not boast of nobility, and their fortune was small; but they were in possession of a spotless reputation.

Letourneur

Letourneur was born at Granville on the 15th of March 1751. In the course of an excellent education he made great progress in mathematics, which procured him admission into the corps of Engineers at the age of seventeen, and that luckily at a time, when it was not necessary to procure a passport from the Herald's Office, in order to arrive at military rank. His usual place of residence, in his professional capacity, was Cherbourg, where he served under the orders of his uncle M. de Caux, Commandant of Engineers, and where he gained much applause by his ingenious construction of a powder magazine. The revolution found him in no higher rank than that of Captain.

In the Legislative Assembly, of which he was a member, he seldom spoke upon the spur of the occasion, though he made several excellent reports in the name of the Committee of Marine. Appointed at the same time to superintend the entrenchments thrown up in the vicinity of Paris, he found it far more easy to reduce the rude elements of the soil to obedience, than the immense number of workmen he had under his direction.

Upon the dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, he was elected a member of the National Convention, and was soon after sent on a public mission to the South of France. While there, war was declared against the Spaniards, who soon made a rapid progress in the department of the eastern Pyrenees.

Letourneur immediately repaired to the French army, and found the troops in so deplorable a state, that they would have been utterly incapable of resistance, if by tracing out the camp of the Union, he had not favoured their means of defence. This obliged the Spaniards to pause, and gave the French time to strengthen their southern frontier.

Though Letourneur was thought a *mountaineer* in consequence of the support he gave to energetic measures, all his activity ceased at the fall of the Girondists. He no longer spoke in the debate; he denounced no conspiracy; he took no part in the popularity of the demagogues, nor in the spoil. — For fifteen months it seemed as if he were not in existence. But when liberty appeared again to enlighten the horizon, Letourneur once more became visible, and was successively President of the Convention, and National Commissioner with the Fleet in the Mediterranean, before he was raised to the summit of republican ambition—a seat in the Executive Directory. At the latter end of the year 1794, the Committees of Government having framed the plan of an Expedition to India, Letourneur was pointed out as a proper person to be employed on the occasion in quality of a Commissioner. Instructions for that mission were actually made out for him, but for reasons not wholly developed, although they were discussed in the Convention during almost three whole days, the project was *abandoned* under the idea of being *deferred*.

It has been said that Letourneur had a fishing establishment on the banks of Newfoundland during the American war; that it was destroyed by the English; and that he planned Richery's transatlantic expedition in revenge; but nothing of this kind can be traced to any authentic source.

Letourneur is a man of a reserved disposition, yet the irritability of his temper sometimes borders upon petulance, and though upright in his own dealings he is apt to suspect the good faith of others. His mode of life is simple, and his morals pure.

BARTHELEMY, EX-DIRECTOR,

Is the nephew of the Abbé of the same name, who obtained such deserved celebrity by his learned labours, particularly his "*Voyage du jeune Anacharse*;" and who died at Paris in the year 1795. The uncle was patronized by M. de Choiseul, Prime Minister of France, whom he had accompanied, while Comte de Stainville, in his diplomatic mission to Italy. After their return, young Barthelemy was placed in one of the public offices at Versailles, and became initiated at an early period of life in the foreign correspondence of the administration of that day.

His protector was a nobleman, who united very dissimilar, and apparently incompatible pursuits, in his own person. An accomplished courtier, he cultivated a taste for the fine arts, intrigued in every cabinet of Europe, and espoused the interests of literature

literature and learned men. To his agency has been attributed, two of the most remarkable and portentous events of our time: the family compact between France and Spain, and the union of the houses of Austria and Bourbon, by the marriage of Marie Antoinette, with Louis XVI.

No sooner had M. Barthelemy attained the age of manhood, than this powerful interest procured him a foreign mission. He accordingly accompanied the Baron de Breteuil to Switzerland, and resided with him some time at Soleure. Thence he repaired with the same Minister to Sweden, witnessed, and as has been said, assisted in that memorable revolution, the event of which has demonstrated, how easy it is for a Sovereign, aided by a standing army, a parasitical noblesse, and a few soldiers of fortune, to overthrow the liberties of a nation.

When Count d'Adhemar was sent Ambassador to this country, he was accompanied by M. Barthelemy; and on his return to Paris, the latter, who had been before Secretary of Legation, became Minister-Plenipotentiary. He also resided here for a considerable time, during the embassy of M. de la Lucerne.

In the mean while, an important revolution was insensibly preparing in his native country; and it was his singular good fortune, notwithstanding his notorious aversion to it, to be benefited by the event. His family had been protected by the *noblesse*, and both himself and his uncle had received many
testimonies

testimonies of attachment from Louis XVI. It was accordingly imagined, that he would have openly joined the emigrants; one of these two things, however, must have occurred on this occasion: he either became a sincere convert to the principles of the Republicans, and acted from a conviction of the goodness of their cause; or he concealed his real sentiments, and, professing open enmity to the Royalists, sacrificed his opinion to his ambition.

It was Switzerland, the diplomatic school of his juvenile years, that was destined to become the theatre of his glory. There he first opened the powers entrusted to him as Minister of the new Republic; and it is but justice to add, that he conducted himself through the labyrinth of his political agency, with equal address and success.

When he first made his appearance in the political hemisphere, he was treated with contempt, and even insult; but such is the magic of success, that fame no sooner began to trumpet the gigantic efforts of the French armies, than he not only found means to get himself acknowledged, but soon afterwards actually entered into profitable alliances with the very states which had been the bitterest enemies of his country.

When Letourneur went out of the Directory by lot*, Barthelemy was chosen to succeed him, in consequence

* This great event was notified to Barthelemy in Switzerland, who having avoided the guard of honour, and all the ceremonial of a public

sequence of the almost unanimous voice of the two

public reception, intended for him, on entering the territories of the Republic, by taking a circuitous road, reached Paris in a private manner. On June 6th 1797, the Directory received him in great state, in the hall where it usually assembles, and the new member addressed his colleagues to the following effect:

“ CITIZENS DIRECTORS,

“ The first sentiment that occurred to my mind, on receiving from the national representation the right of a seat among you, was a conviction of my incapacity. A distant spectator of the glory of the French Republic, and struck with admiration at her prosperity, I know not to what cause I ought to ascribe this excess of kindness and confidence, which called me to the exercise of the first office of the state.

“ But soon forgetting my incapacity, I became sensible of my good fortune. To contribute at the close of a glorious revolution, to the consolidation of the republic; to preside over the execution of the laws; to co-operate with you and the legislative body, in repairing the mischief necessarily produced by a long and dreadful tempest, is to me an enviable duty.

“ Need I mention, that on entering upon my office, I cherish the sanguine hope of finding in the Directory the foundation of a *general pacification*! I did imagine, that after a grand display of power and energy, the French republic would pursue a just and pacific line of conduct, and manifest a disposition to treat with her most inveterate enemies. The duration of empires is guaranteed by their justice; and justice and moderation after victory, will be the harbinger of that permanent peace, which ought for ever to confirm and consolidate the constitution which France has acquired.

“ Accept, Citizens-Directors, the assurance of my inviolable attachment to that constitution. Accept those sentiments of respect and esteem, which are due to your characters. I derive the utmost gratification from reflecting, that our union under the guidance of the law, will be cemented by reciprocal esteem, affection, and confidence.”

Councils;

Councils;* on his first official interview with his colleagues, he is said to have differed with them in opinion on several leading points, and in conjunction with Carnot, to have formed a minority in the Directorial Cabinet. This difference of opinion appears, at length, to have increased in so high a degree as to occasion open hostilities to break out between them, and has since led to the expulsion of Barthelemy and Carnot from the Directory, and even their exile from France.

It is supposed that Barthelemy had been so far wrought upon by the Agents of Royalty, who had easy access to him at Basle, as to engage himself to a certain degree in their interest. Those who knew him when he resided in London, describe him as professing attachment to the first Constitution; and he appears actually to have dined at the London Tavern on the famous commemoration of the 14th of July, in the year 1790. Though inclined however to a limited Monarchy, he might not entertain Republican sentiments in the degree which his situation, as one of the first Magistrates of his country, seemed to require.

No sooner did the *Fruëdorian* Revolution of September 4th 1797, take place, than Barthelemy was arrested in the Directorial palace. In about fourteen days after, he was conveyed in a close carriage to Brest, where he embarked in company with

* A little before this, he had been elected a member of the Council of Five Hundred, for the department of *Haute-Loire*.

several deputies for Cayenne. On this occasion, a singular instance of attachment on the part of one of his domestics occurred, for his *Valet de Chambre* followed him thither, and insisted on accompanying him during his exile.

The period of his banishment was however but short, for he and several others who had been transported along with him, found means to elude the vigilance of the colonial government, and actually arrived at Surinam. The Governor of Cayenne, on receiving intelligence of this event, instantly sent to demand them; on this the Dutch *Commandant* is said to have *winked* at their escape, on board a neutral vessel. In this ship, they sailed for America; happening however, to be boarded by a British man of war, some of them were sent to England, but Barthelemy's health rendering such a long passage intolerable, he requested to be left in the West Indies, and he is said at this moment to be in the island of Martinique.

The *Ex-director*, is about forty-five years of age, tall, meagre, fallow, simple in his dress, but elegant in his manners and conversation.

ABBÉ SIEYES,

Was born at *Frejus*, in the eastern part of Provence, in the year 1748. He was successively a Clergyman, a Vicar General, a Canon, Chancellor of the Church of Chartres; and lastly he was invested with the permanent administrative employment,

ment, of Counsellor-Commiffary, from the Diocefe of Chartres to the fuperior Clergy of France.

He was efteemed a learned Civilian and Canonift, and poffeffed a confiderable fhare of knowledge in the Belles-Lettres; his favourite ftudies, however, were metaphyſics, politics, and œconomics. He ſpent the greater part of every year in the capital, where he affociated with D'Alembert, Diderot, Condorcet, &c. He was at this time a member of the Œconomical Society, which held its fittings in the Hotel of the *Chancellor Segur*.

Notwithſtanding theſe excellent qualifications and connections, it is more than probable that Sieyès would have continued in obſcurity through life, if the Revolution had not brought him into a ſituation calculated to diſplay his talents. Being appointed a Dupty to the States-General, he began his career by the publication of a judicious pamphlet, entitled "*What is the Third Eſtate?*" This ſoon became the moſt fashionable book in Paris.

After the meeting of the *Tiers Etat* at Verſailles, he was the firſt perſon who propoſed that they ſhould call themſelves "*the Aſſembly of the Representatives of the French People*," and he ſupported his project with conſiderable ingenuity. Mirabeau, who was the better ſtateſman, ſeeing his predilection for metaphyſics, took this occaſion to warn him of the inconveniences which might
arife

arise from applying abstract deductions to the practice of government and legislation.

When the misunderstanding between the different orders in the States-General assumed a serious aspect, great numbers of troops were drawn around the capital, and the Deputies in the popular interest had reason to be apprehensive for their safety. It was Sieyes, who, in the sitting of the 8th of July, stated to the assembly the maxim in the province of Brittany, that no troops should be allowed to approach nearer than within ten leagues of the place in which the States were sitting; he proposed therefore an Address to the King to desire that he would order the troops to withdraw from the neighbourhood of Versailles.

Sometime previously to the month of October, when the King was attacked in his palace by the Parisian mob, a Secret Committee, consisting of the Duke of Orleans, Mirabeau, La Clos, and the Abbé Sieyes, is said to have met in the village of Montrouge, near Paris. They had agreed upon a scheme for placing the Duke of Orleans in so distinguished a situation in the government, that, with the assistance of his immense fortune, and under the influence of his name, they could not fail to have the command of the populace, and consequently possess a decisive weight in the National Assembly. Whether their design was to render this prince of the blood royal an useful instrument in furthering the Revolution, or to open to him an easy path to the throne,

throne, history has yet to unravel: the fact is brought forward in this place merely to shew how far Sieyes came under the denomination of an *Orleanist*.

Certain it is, that he either was, or affected at one time to be, a zealous royalist. In the year 1791, when it was thought that the King, by attempting his escape, had abdicated the crown, a combination was formed, consisting of Condorcet and Brissot in France, and Paine in England, for the publication of a periodical paper, under the title of *The Republican*. Sieyes actually printed answers to essays which appeared, from time to time, in this work, and declared his intentions to support a *Monarchy against a Republic* by every means in his power! It is not known whether the succeeding events of the Revolution, or some stronger reasons have since operated to render him so strenuous a proselyte to the Republican system.*

Sieyes was the author of the famous declaration of "*the rights of man*," which was decreed by the National Assembly. It was written in his usual

* Notwithstanding this sudden conversion, the life of the Abbé has more than once been in danger. When the *Mountain* prevailed, he refused to become a member of their committees, which produced a sarcastic remark at a time, when a sarcasm was not unfrequently the forerunner of destruction.

On his determination not to take an active part in the plans of the Jacobins being announced in the assembly, a popular orator of that day arose and observed, "that *Monsieur Sieyes* was never to be found at his post."

metaphysical

metaphysical manner, and excited very different sensations in every country of Europe. Mr. Burke was among the most furious of his assailants, and stated that he wanted to reduce the art of governing to the rules of architecture, and to measure the passions of men with a geometrical compass.

His indifference about dignities or eminent situations, which might draw upon him the attention of the public, and consequent responsibility, was strikingly exemplified after the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly. He was designed by his friends as a candidate for the metropolitan church of Paris, but declined the honour, and allowed Gobêt* to be elected in his stead. He was then appointed a member of the department, which he neither accepted nor refused; and his conduct on this occasion, favoured so much of arrogance as to disgust even his most partial admirers.

In 1792, Sieyes was appointed a member of the National Convention. Nothing remarkable distinguished his conduct during the first period of that tumultuous assembly. When, however, it voted the punishment of Louis, such was the influence of Sieyes that a great number of members reserved themselves till they had heard his opinion. It was consequently understood, that upon that would

* Gobêt, with two of his Vicar-Generals, soon after suffered under the guillotine.

depend the fate of the King. — Sieyes at length mounted the tribune; an awful silence pervaded the anxious assembly; eloquence, combined with philosophy, was expected on all sides; he, however, interrupted the solemn pause with only five emphatic monosyllables “Je suis pour la mort!”* and instantly withdrew.

From this time he was so carefully concealed from the public eye, that it was actually made a question whether he was dead or alive. It has, however, been suspected by the Parisians, that he directed, from his retreat, many of the atrocities which were committed under the reign of Robespierre.

Sieyes took no part in the re-action of the *Thermidorians*. From the death of Robespierre, till February 1795, he still remained behind the curtain, and did not appear upon the stage until he was certain there was no danger of the *mountaineers* regaining their ascendancy. By way of apology for having thus absented himself from business during two years, he published memoirs of his own life, the purport of which was to lament that the mountain party had abused his definitions of the rights of man; and to state that his system had been intended only as the skeleton of civil society, a skeleton which, according to situation, was susceptible of numberless modifications.

“I am for Death.”

From

From this period began the most brilliant career of Sieyes's public life. Having obtained the unbounded esteem and confidence of his colleagues, he was fixed upon to regulate the external relations of the Republic. It was he, who suggested the scheme of concluding separate treaties with the coalesced powers, with the view to create such a misunderstanding as would prove fatal to the royal confederacy.

The subsequent conduct of the European cabinets has evinced that the Abbé was right in his conjectures, and thus a Vicar of Chartres has out-manceuvred all the experienced Statesmen in Europe.

The plans of Sieyes, for the aggrandisement of the French Republic, were developed so early as April 1795. He advised his colleagues to retain the Austrian Netherlands, and was the first projector of the alliance with Holland. He, himself, went to the Hague as French Plenipotentiary, for the purpose of concluding that famous treaty.

Those who did not comprehend the designs of Sieyes, highly disapproved of a treaty with a petty power, not geographically united to France, and whose democratic constitution had not been acknowledged by the King of Prussia, brother-in-law to the *ci-devant* Stadtholder. Even the greater part of his colleagues in the Committee of Public Safety were of opinion, that the Netherlands should be restored to Austria; and so late as the month of August in that year, Boissy d'Anglas gave his opinion in

the Committee, that the Emperor would rather endanger his crown than relinquish those important possessions. The opinions of Sieyes was, however, adopted, for the National Convention decreed the union of Belgium with the French Republic.

So signal were the services thus performed by Sieyes to his country, that at the time of the adoption of the new constitution, he was elected one of the five members of the Executive Directory.—He acted, however, on that occasion as he did in the year 1791, when he declined the Archbishopric of Paris.

In February, 1796, he was appointed a member of the National Institute, in the class of Metaphysics and Morals; and, by an unaccountable singularity of choice, the very same man who had declined a place in the Directory, accepted of the chair of Literature in the central school at the *College de Mazarin*!

It was reported in May, 1796, that Sieyes was the author of the peace between the French Republic and the King of Sardinia. This is highly probable, because he continued for some time to direct the external policy of the Directory, nearly in the same manner as he had formerly superintended that of the Committee of Public Safety. A treaty so disgraceful to an independent Sovereign, could scarcely have been wished for, even by the most inveterate Jacobins.—The writer of this article, who was then in Paris, recollects, that when the English newspapers

reached that city, which contained the memorable speech of Lord Fitzwilliam, proposing a *bellum internecinum*, a great many intelligent Frenchmen avowed that his Lordship's idea was fully justified by the revolutionary diplomatics of the Abbé Sieyes.

This Deputy, on account of the supposed insensibility of his heart, and his Camelion-like conduct is little beloved in France. In the spring 1797, he very narrowly escaped assassination with a pistol, by the Abbé Poulle*.

During the preceding Autumn, he was so abused by means of lampoons and pasquinades, that he was obliged to quit Paris upon the entrance of the new third into the Legislature; and did not leave his retreat until the violent crisis of the 4th of September.

No sooner had this taken place, than he once more appeared in the Legislative and Literary Assemblies, and took an active part in the deliberations of both. A little while after, a new scene was opened to his ambition, and he who had refused to be a Bishop, and even a Director, condescended at length to become an Ambassador.

* This event occurred on the 10th of April, 1797. Poulle the assassin, who was bred a Clergyman, and had been a Constitutional Priest, (*prêtre assermenté & curé constitutionnel*) determined to put a period to the life of the Abbé Sieyes, by whom he had been protected. He, however, wounded his benefactor but slightly; and the circumstance was no sooner notified to the Council of Five Hundred, than that Assembly testified its esteem by ordering a *bulletin* of his health, to be delivered daily.

He accordingly repaired to the Court of Berlin, in the character of Minister-Plenipotentiary; and, notwithstanding the many reports to the contrary, has assuredly met with a distinguished reception. The grand object of his mission was to *neutralise* the King of Prussia, and this he has completely effected, by arousing the jealousy of that Monarch, and pointing out the House of Austria as the *natural* enemy of that of Brandenburg.

Sieyes has been ridiculed by Mr. Burke, who affected, ironically, to recommend to the Reformers here, “one of the new constitutions ready cut and dry, from the *pigeon-holes* of the Abbé’s bureau.” A literary Emigrant has also endeavoured to characterize him in the following couplet :

“ Le Legiste Sieyes, docteur en style dur,
 “ Qui passe pour sublime à force d’être obscur.”

TALLIEN.

No man has had a more weighty part to sustain in the French Revolutionary Drama, than Tallien. Although a young man, he may be said to be one of the oldest Republicans, since he was among the first who declared for a government wholly representative. He makes no secret that he was of the *classe roturiere*, as it was called, during the existence of the privileged orders; nor indeed can any Republican be ashamed to acknowledge himself *one of the people*, although the term *plebeian* may be retained as an invidious distinction in other countries.

Tallien was undeniably the son of a *valet de chambre*, who resided with a branch of the family of Choiseul, and he himself was entered as a *Boursier*, in one of the colleges at Paris. The best educations in France, as in Scotland, were not so expensive as they are in England; had they been so, Tallien must have followed a different occupation from that of a writer in one of the best conducted Journals of Paris. In the beginning of the Revolution he occupied himself in disseminating the principles of political and religious freedom, and was actually called from an engagement in the *Moniteur*, at fifty livres per week, to be Secretary-General to the Commune of Paris.

To whom could the people so readily look for the erection of that column of liberty which they had resolved upon, as to those who, in the public newspapers, had delineated it in such fascinating forms? It is on this ground, perhaps, that the Convention counted among its Members, so many writers and editors of periodical works.

Tallien not only assisted in the construction of the Republican ship, but he was launched in her, and has been always on board without intermission, even to this hour.

His post at the Commune was not the least toilsome, nor the least perilous. Paris for more than two years exhibited a scene of tumult night and day. New dangers every hour, in one shape or other, gave rise to violent motions, and turbulent debates. While, on the one hand, he saw it dangerous for a
public

public functionary to exhibit too much eagerness to check the intemperance of inflamed imaginations, on the other he beheld himself exposed to the hazard of being accused, at a future day, as an accessory to all the outrages committed, whether with or without his knowledge. To whom can the humane man denounce the excesses of an enraged populace in the hour of anarchy? In transferring the power from one hand to another, there must be a precise point of time in which neither can be said to exercise it.

The massacre of September 1792, appears to be the most anarchical and horrible æra of the French Revolution; for, although unquestionably, there were Magistrates appointed for preserving the peace and the lives of the citizens both in and out of prison, yet, with the exception of Petion, they remained inactive for the two days those enormities prevailed, as if without sufficient means to enforce their authority; nor have the efforts of the various parties in the different re-actions succeeded in bringing to condemnation, the persons reproached with so great a neglect of duty.

Committees of Insurrection were assembled in almost every section of the metropolis, and in many of them open proposals were made for acts of summary vengeance upon obnoxious persons. It may be asked, was magistracy asleep? Was justice lame as well as blind? Or were the people more than mad? Danton was Minister of Justice, Petion was Mayor of Paris at this period, and Tallien was at the Com-

immune every day. They have all three been charged as participating in the crimes of the first days of September, yet conviction has been brought completely home to neither the first nor the last, and the second of these is assuredly exempt from blame. Tallien ably and satisfactorily vindicated his character from the aspersions in the Council of Five Hundred, on the 30th of August last, when personal altercations ran so high on the subject of Bailleul's publication. Nay, more, Debonnieres, a Member of the same Council, attested Tallien's humanity and interference in order to save the prisoners, of whom he himself was one.

But the best proof that can be offered of his aversion to cruelty, is the decided, the dangerous hostility he waged against Robespierre, when the latter made no other use of his vast popularity than to satiate his personal vengeance. Robespierre had marked him down for an early victim, so that in all probability, had not the tyrant fallen himself as he did, Tallien, with Legendre, Barras, Sieyes, and half a dozen more of that *standing*, would have made up, in a few days after, a convenient conspiracy-list, in the same manner many of their unfortunate colleagues had done before.

Robespierre used to say "*I cannot see that Tallien without shuddering*;" aware, no doubt, of the intrepidity of his character. The issue proved that his anticipations were just. On the famous 9th Thermidor, when Robespierre rushed to the Tribune to reply to the denunciation of Billaud de Varrennes, and

and was prevented from speaking by the almost unanimous cry of, "*Down with the Tyrant*," Tallien, having obtained a hearing, exclaimed "The veil is rent, every thing announces the downfall of the monster! I have armed myself with a poniard to stab him to the heart, if the Convention should hesitate to vote his accusation." He then demanded a decree, which was instantly passed, for the arrest of Henriot, the *Etat Major* of the Parisian armed force, and Dumas, the President of the Revolutionary Tribunal. Before the close of the sitting, it is well known that Robespierre and his creatures expiated their crimes upon the same scaffold to which they had sent so many unfortunate victims.

Tallien, it is true, pursued the virtuous Girondists also to the guillotine, with an animosity that will ever disgrace his political integrity. He however confesses and laments, that he has been at times hurried away by the ardor of his principles.

"I may have concurred (says he) in the death of some real patriots, but such was our fate, that Republicans were doomed to die by the hands of Republicans, a circumstance much to be deplored, but always attendant on great Revolutions!" The outrageous Hebert, the *soi-disant* Pere Duchesne, when on his trial, made an observation on this subject neither unclassical nor untrue: "I see (cried he) the French Revolution has become a second Saturn; it is devouring its own children!"

Tallien is now the object of the inveterate hatred

of the Royalists. They accuse him of having enriched himself while on mission at *Bourdeaux**; this charge he loudly denies, and it ought to be recollected that no corrupt act of this nature has ever been proved against any one of those Deputies sent into the Departments at the period alluded to; though from the unlimited powers with which they were invested, they have been denominated *Pro-Consuls*. It is scarcely probable that discoveries should not have been made, had the alleged transactions really taken place.

Tallien married Mademoiselle Cabbarus, the daughter of a rich Spanish banker of that name, soon after his return from the south of France. Her fortune was very considerable, probably as great as that of the late Miss Scott, now Lady Titchfield. How far the consideration of being protected by a husband, and at the same time a Deputy of the National Convention, might have gained an ascendancy over the lady's mind when the Revolution spared the heads of

* His object in repairing thither, was to quell the *departmental insurrection*, excited by the Deputies so unjustly proscribed on the 31st of May. One of them gives the following testimony of his humanity:

“ *Il faut rendre cette justice à Tallien, qu'après la prise de Bourdeaux, il y a empêché bien du mal. Sans lui, cette ville auroit été traité avec autant de barbarité que Lyon.*”

Quelques Notices pour l'Histoire,

par J. B. Louvet. p. 94.

neither

neither sex, and was particularly inimical to the rich, we will not take upon us to say.

Madame Tallien is *unfortunately* very elegant in her person, and splendid in her attire. She is said to be much charmed with the manners and conversation of the young Director, Barras, and if we are to credit the scandalous stories circulated in Paris, is not altogether exempt from that *suspicion*, which Cæsar warned his wife not to incur.

Possessed of an ample income, the whole of which is at her own command, she indulges in all the extravagance of dress and decoration. One day, her shoulders, chest, and legs are bare; on the next, they are adorned with festoons of gold chains, while her head sparkles with diamonds*; and, instead of the simplicity of a Roman matron, she constantly exhibits all the ostentatious luxury of a Persian Sultana. France may be termed a Commonwealth, but these surely are not Republican manners, befitting the wife of one of the most eminent of her citizens.

Tallien, on the other hand, affecting to consider all this as the pardonable excesses of a beautiful Spaniard, is simple in his person, and active and enterprising in his habits of life. After pleading with

* It is but justice to this lady, to observe here, that Dr. Meyer in his *Fragments sur Paris*, asserts that she does not possess any diamonds, and that the *extravaganza* alluded to above, originated in the *poetical imaginations* of the emigrants.

He adds, at the same time, that in consequence of Madame Tallien's interposition, the effusion of much blood was prevented at Bourdeaux.

uncommon zeal against the law of the 19th Fructidor, which includes many Republicans who never quitted Paris in the list of Emigrants, and among the rest, the widow of Condorcet, on this occasion, pointed out by name; he prepared to leave his native country, in order to succour the *then* uniformly victorious efforts of Buonaparte. He accordingly embarked as Commissioner to Malta, on board the *Lodi*, a twenty-gun brig, and was stationed on the quarter-deck, during a long and bloody engagement with the *Eagle*, an English privateer, encountered by accident in the channel of Piombino, and mistaken at first for a man of war.

Having repaired to Civetta Vecchia to refit, after some stay, they pursued their voyage, and it is not known with certainty, whether the Commissioner has been shut up by the English fleet in Malta, or is now accompanying Buonaparte in his erratic excursions along the banks of the Nile.

Tallien is remarkable for the elegance of his person. He is about thirty-two years of age; of the height of five feet ten inches; thin, and of a complexion inclining to fallow.

As an orator, he neither strikes his auditors with a variety of new ideas, nor by the vividness of his language; he is, however, to be commended for propriety of expression, and the chasteness of grammatical purity. His voice is not sonorous or commanding; but he attracts considerable attention, nevertheless, by a modest deportment and benign countenance.

His

His denunciations are not bitter; and if he can succeed in replying to the invectives of his enemies, he generally puts an end to the contest.

On the whole, he doubtless has many errors, and perhaps many crimes to expiate, but the Republic, on the other hand, certainly owes much to him for the constancy and the zeal with which he has uniformly supported its establishment, and with which he still labours for its consolidation.

PETION.

The French Revolution is sometimes compared to a troubled ocean, and the various factions succeeding each other, have been assimilated to the waves rolling impetuously along until their force is exhausted on the beach, or their form broken against the rocks.

Jerome Petion, was born in 1759, at Chartres, the capital of the territory formerly known by the appellation of *Chartaine & Beauce*, and now denominated the department of Eure. His family was not noble, but it was at once opulent and respectable, and he himself, after receiving an excellent education, studied the law, and was called to the bar.

He practised for some years, in his native city, and acquired considerable reputation as a Provincial Counsel. He also distinguished himself as a man of letters*, and while the Bastile yet stood, he expressed

* See "Oeuvres de Jerome Petion." 3 vols, 8vo.

a marked abhorrence at the multifarious abuses which had crept into the French Government, and unveiled the radical defects of its political, civil, and ecclesiastical institutions. A memoir written by him "on the Laws and Administration of France," so early as 1782, occasioned some search after the author, and had M. de Mirosmenil, then Minister of Justice, discovered him, there can be but little doubt, that the Advocate who had so eloquently pleaded for the liberty of others, would have been deprived of his own!

No sooner had the idea of a Legislative body been conceived, and countenanced by the Court, than he precipitated himself as a combatant into the political arena, determined either to conquer or perish. To the *second* Assembly of the Notables, he addressed a "Petition," stating the necessity of granting a double representation of the third estate; and at the same time advised the inhabitants of the country, in a printed "letter," not to elect Nobles as their Deputies. When the Parliament of Paris proposed that the States General should assemble in the same manner as in 1614, he also replied to their memorial.

When the States General had assembled, he published his "Advice to the French Nation, on the safety of the Empire," in which he recommends to attack the root, rather than the branches of corruption, and above all things "to redress grievances before they voted supplies." A memoir having been drawn up, by order of the Princes of the Blood, he
answered

answered it by his *Petit Mot d'un Marseillois*, a pamphlet which obtained an extensive circulation and celebrity.

His reputation being now fixed in his native province, he was invited to assist in composing the instructions for the Deputies, and he accordingly acted a conspicuous part in drawing up the *Cahiers* of the *Baillage* of Chartres. His influence however was not sufficiently extensive to enable him to aspire to a seat in the first assembly. But to that known under the name of the *Constituent*, he was sent by his fellow citizens, and soon distinguished himself there; indeed most of the great plans brought forward at that period, were either suggested by his wisdom, or enforced by his eloquence.

During this and the subsequent legislature, even when his own party was possessed of all the power of the state, although he himself was daily abused in printed libels of all kinds, he still contended stoutly for the free circulation of opinions.

“What more powerful, or more certain means can be adopted,” said he, “in order to encrease knowledge, than the liberty of the press? It is a sublime invention, which makes the ideas of one man common to all; which converts them into a patrimony for every nation; which renders them imperishable, and almost corporeal; which has already so prodigiously extended the sphere of our comprehension, removed the barriers of the human mind, and

undoubtedly is preparing new prodigies for posterity.

“ The liberty of the press makes the arts and sciences flourish, and gives a new life to all the social institutions ; by its means errors are dissipated, prejudices are chased away, opinions struggle with opinions, and after a combat, in which they become refined and purified, truth at length triumphs.

“ The liberty of the press elevates the mind, gives energy to talents, and developes and displays genius.

“ The liberty of the press is the safeguard of political and civil liberty. Nothing can equal, nothing can supply the want of this species of public censure ; it watches while the law sleeps ; it restrains when the law cannot repress ; it denounces to the public opinion what the law cannot denounce to the courts of justice.

“ The liberty of the press and the slavery of nations are incompatible.”

Talents, such as these, of course endeared him to the popular party, and he accordingly became a member of the Convention, in which, as in the Constituent Assembly, he acquired a great preponderance. What added not a little to his celebrity, was the belief that he was guided in all his actions by principle alone, and his conduct when Dumourier proposed to choose a governor for the Prince Royal, from among the members of the legislature, was always quoted as a proof of his disinterested energy : “ We are deputed,”

puted," said he, "to form the Constitution; we have sworn not to separate till we have accomplished that work; and we cannot, without violating our oath and deceiving our constituents, accept of a place which would oblige us to quit our post."

In order to make himself acquainted with the criminal code of England, he repaired to this country, under pretext of accompanying Madame de Sillery, and her lovely pupil, the unfortunate daughter of the Duke of Orleans, hither. He accordingly made many enquiries concerning our mode of proceeding, and the nature of evidence, as admitted by our tribunals, and sat several days on the bench, during the trials at the Old Bailey. He also was a guest at one of the public dinners at the London Tavern, and returned home fully satisfied that the Ministers of this country would not impede France in her revolutionary career.

Having been bred up at school, and at college along with Brissot, who was also a native of the same town, an unbounded intimacy took place between them. This circumstance naturally led to a connection with the *Girondists*, and he at length became one of the principal leaders of that party.

In 1791, on the resignation of Bailly, we find him Mayor of Paris, and that capital was more than once saved from plunder, in consequence of his well acquired popularity, and the powers of persuasion, with which he was so eminently gifted.

During the ferocious massacres that took place in 1792, he still occupied that important station; but
the

the contrivers of those infernal excesses, by bereaving him of his reputation for patriotism, at the same time deprived him of the power to impede their atrocities. During the hottest part of the bloody scene, he was detained at the Mayoralty by force, but no sooner was he liberated, than he repaired to the place of slaughter, and chased away the ruffians, some of whom, as if conscious of the merit of their services, actually demanded of him a reward!

On the memorable 21st of August, when the King was assailed in his palace by the cries of the populace, who vociferated "*à bas le veto*," Petion had a delicate part to act, both as Mayor and an adversary of the *veto*, which at that time gave so much occasion for suspicion.

On the 10th of August he was detained for a short time in that palace, as an hostage for the safety of the Royal Family; a circumstance which accelerated its destruction. He afterwards voted for an appeal to the nation upon the condemnation of Louis XVI. notwithstanding he was detested by that Monarch, and this gave the *fierce Republicans* occasion to suspect him, so that when the crisis of the 31st of May arrived, he was ranked among the proscribed Deputies, and committed to prison. On the following morning, however, he made his escape, and joined those Deputies at Caen, who had conceived, and were then contriving to execute the project of a *departmental insurrection*. Having been deceived by Wimpfen, who at first pretended to be a Republican,

can, and was soon after discovered to be a Royalist, as well as M. de Puissaye, who was to have been their General, and whom they suspected of treating with the Jacobins, the Monarchists, and the English at the same time, they determined to remove into the Department of the *Gironde*. Accordingly, Petion, Buzot, Louvet, Gaudet, and Barbaroux, assuming the dress and accoutrements of volunteers, marched, or rather escaped across the country to Quimper, whither they at length arrived, after struggling with innumerable difficulties.

There they remained concealed for some time, and were at length so fortunate as to procure a vessel, which on the recommendation of some worthy merchants attached to their cause, was to carry them to Bourdeaux by sea.

On this new element they were once more exposed to a thousand dangers. In the first place, they were obliged to sail under the convoy of the Brest fleet; and had it not been for the conduct of the Captain, who at the risk of his life saved theirs, by stoutly denying that there was any passengers on board, they must inevitably have been immolated to the fury of the Mountain.

But this was not all: they were still more afraid, if possible, of meeting with a British Squadron, then cruising in their immediate neighbourhood, and had all entered into the desperate resolution, in that case, to sacrifice their existence, in order to save their honour: for it had been given out by their enemies, that

that they were in league with the English Cabinet ; and had they been taken, this circumstance alone would have seemed to justify the suspicions, so artfully propagated against them.

At length, however, they arrived within sight of the place of their destination ; but their dangers instead of abating seemed to multiply every moment. They now learned that the moment they came to anchor their little vessel was to be visited, and searched by a cutter from the Commodore ; and heard also that the garrison of the fort carefully inspected all passengers, and demanded their passports. In this dilemma they determined to land toward the evening in an unfrequented spot, and having at length effected this, and handsomely rewarded the faithful master of the little vessel, they walked forward towards Bourdeaux.

Afraid to venture into this city, notwithstanding they imagined the inhabitants in arms for them, they repaired to a house in the neighbourhood, pointed out by one of the proscribed Deputies, who had sent notice to the family of their intentions. On their arrival, however, they found the mansion empty, and with great difficulty procured the key. This circumstance exhibiting a sinister aspect, they determined to reconnoitre the neighbourhood, and Petion and Guadet were selected for that purpose.

On their return, they reported, that instead of the *Gironde* being in a state of insurrection on their account, they could not find shelter any where, even for a few hours ; that in Bourdeaux the section of Frank-

lin declaring for the Jacobins, and an armed force having presented itself at the same time, the more respectable citizens had been overcome by the rabble; that *Chateau-Trompette* and *Fort Blaye*, both in possession of the Girondists, had surrendered, and that Tallien and the Deputies of the Mountain had entered in triumph.

All these facts were soon confirmed by the most doleful experience; the inhabitants in their vicinity, who had always viewed them with a jealous eye, began to be in motion; they were destitute of arms, ammunition, and provisions; their friends were afraid not only to shelter but to succour them, while troops and even cannon were advancing against them on all sides: in short, their destruction appeared to be inevitable.

Having found means, however, to effect their escape, during the night, they had the good fortune to cross the Dordogne in a ferry-boat, and elude the vigilance of fifty troopers dispatched in pursuit of them, by taking refuge in a quarry.

Exposed to the fury of the elements, destitute of clothes, provisions, and even of shoes; subsisting only by accident, and liable every moment to destruction, what was now to be done? They were not possessed of the means of any longer combating the enemy, and even their own preservation became exceedingly precarious. It was impossible to keep in a body and remain undiscovered; and the thought of separation was dreadful.

At length, after many painful struggles, it was resolved to divide. Salles and Guadet taking the road towards Landes, were soon after seized, carried to Bourdeaux, and, after a mock trial, executed there. Barbaroux, Valady, and Louvet, crossed the country towards Mont-Pont, where the last left them, and, after a variety of romantic adventures, reached Paris; escaped thence to Mount Jura, returned, and was recognized as a martyr, after the Thermidorian Revolution, and at length, as if by a miracle, died in his bed! Of the two former, Barbaroux was seized and carried to Bourdeaux, where he perished on a scaffold; and Valady, after escaping from his own poniard, being recognized at Perigueux, experienced a similar fate.

In the mean time, Petion and Buzot having determined to remain together, and undergo the same fate, wandered about from place to place, sometimes taking shelter in a barn or an empty hay-loft; sometimes exposed for whole days and nights to the inclemency of the atmosphere, and often destitute of the means of supporting life.

Nature being exhausted by so many privations, at length yielded to the pressure, and their *emaciated* bodies were found stretched on the ground in the same field, in the Department of the Gironde; for, dreadful to relate! they were both supposed to have perished by want, in the very centre of one of the most fertile provinces of the Republic.

Thus

Thus fell, in the most wretched and forlorn state that humanity can be exposed to, the eloquent, the virtuous, the incorruptible Petion, but a few months before the idol of the French nation, and one of the main pillars on which it relied. He was a victim to a revolution zealously promoted by himself, but of which its authors had not sufficient energy, or perhaps atrocity of character to control.

In the mean time his wife, like those of the other proscribed Deputies, had been exposed to the vilest and basest persecutions. Madame Petion, a beautiful and accomplished female, rejecting the counsels of her mother, a proud and haughty woman, who was attached to Monarchy and Aristocracy, had imbibed and maintained the principles of her husband. While that celebrated man filled the civic chair, she presided as Mayorefs with a dignified simplicity, and exhibited on every occasion the most affable manners and the most engaging moderation. Soon after his escape she was imprisoned, and reduced to dreadful distress, being obliged to have recourse to the bounty of her friends, in order to supply her with common necessaries. She was at length released, but her own calamities and those of her family, had made such a deep impression on her mind, that her imagination was for some time disordered, and what is not a little remarkable, she still supposes her husband to be alive, and daily expects his arrival!

Petion was a handsome, good-looking man, no
more

more than thirty-four years of age ; his complexion was fair and florid, and he is thought by many, in his person to have resembled the Marquis of Lansdowne, when that nobleman was at the same period of life.

GENERAL MOREAU.

This youthful General, destined like many of his contemporaries, from humble beginnings to attain high military rank and uncommon celebrity, was born at Morlaix, in *Basse Brétagne*, now included in the Department of *La Vendée*.

His father was a man of great respectability, and on account of his integrity, disinterestedness, and private virtues, although a lawyer, was generally called the *father of the poor*. On the breaking out of the Revolution, such was the general confidence in his honesty, that he was selected by the gentry and nobility of Morlaix, and its neighbourhood, more especially those who proposed to emigrate, as the most proper person to be intrusted with the management of their affairs. The great number of deposits which he received on this occasion from the nobles and emigrants, contributed not a little to bring him afterwards to the guillotine, under the government of Robespierre, and he was put to death at Brest, by order of Prieur, then on mission in the Department of Finesterre. It is not a little remarkable, that on the very same day the father suffered by the command of the tyrant, the victorious son entered Sluys in triumph, and added it to the dominions of the Republic!

Several

Several eye-witnesses have declared, that the people present at his execution shed torrents of tears, exclaiming several times, “ They are taking our father away from us ! ”

Young Moreau evinced from his early youth a strong prepossession for a military life, and at the age of eighteen, actually enlisted as a soldier. His father, however, who considered this conduct as the effect of imprudence, bought his *congé*, and sent him back to resume his studies. Whether the law proved an unpleasant profession to him, or whether his propensity for arms got the better of every other inclination, it is certain that he soon enlisted again.

The elder Moreau, hurt at this second act of rashness, with a view that he might experience some of the hardships of the life he had chosen, suffered him to serve as a private for a few months ; after which he was prevailed upon, by his friends, not to let the young man continue any longer in that low condition, as it would occasion him to lose the benefit of his early education. Before the Revolution, a man who was not of the *cast of the Noblesse*, had little hope of advancement in the army, whatever might have been his merit. Moreau was therefore, almost in spite of himself, compelled again to return to the dry study of the law, and to follow the profession of his father, who was eminent in this line.

When the Revolution took place he was *Prévôt de Droit* at Rennes, a mark of superiority among the students in law. In that office he acquitted himself

to the complete satisfaction of every body. It is said, that when M.le Chevalier de Brémières brought the Edicts of May, 1788, to the Parliament of Rennes, to be registered, Moreau, then a supporter of the privileged order against the Crown, went to the Literary Chamber, and made an offer of the services of the students, together with those of a great number of other young people, against the measures of the Court. Observing, however, their stubbornness and want of principle, he soon relinquished his concern for their interest, and espoused the party of the people.

In the month of October, 1788, the States of Brittany assembled at Rennes; but the *Tiers Etat* were not then willing to sit with the two other orders, composed of Nobles and Clergy; the latter, therefore, summoned the Syndics of all the Corporations to appear among them, but were constantly opposed; and this, instead of quieting, increased the general dissatisfaction. At length, with a view to force them to put an end to their sittings, the people met in the place called *Le Champ Montmorin*, and at the same time, about twelve hundred young men of Nantes, zealous supporters of *the new order of things*, arrived armed at Rennes. The City Magistrates were at first unwilling to let them enter; upon further consideration, however, they received and lodged them in the houses of the *bourgeois*. These young men lost no time in joining the people, who continued

rued in the *Champ le Montmorin*, and were now preparing to besiege the hall of the Assembly.

Affairs being so circumstanced, the States appointed a deputation to request them to send delegates to examine the register of the deliberations, and to make their report to the people. Young Moreau, who enjoyed not only the confidence of the people of Rennes, but that of the youth of Nantes also, was the first person chosen, and entered with three others into the hall, where the States were sitting. He conducted himself on that occasion with so much ability, that the result of this conference was the complete triumph of the people; for it was agreed, that the States should dissolve, and that the young men of Nantes should return home peaceably. Such was his moderation, that even the most inveterate enemies to the popular cause, bestowed on him the loudest praises.

From that time his reputation daily increased; and upon the formation of the National Guards, in 1789, he was made Colonel of one of the battalions. This honourable situation furnished Moreau with the opportunity of indulging his inclination for a military life. He accordingly soon abandoned the dry and tortuous study of the law, and applied himself to tactics, with such steadiness, that in less than three months he was perfectly adequate to the command which had been entrusted to him. Expert military men have assured the writer, that he became so great a proficient in his new study, as to be better acquainted with the management of a battalion, and the evolutions and manœuvres incident to it, than many old officers.

Such, at that time, was the persuasion of Moreau, of his own capacity for military affairs, that he was heard several times to exclaim, “ I shall soon become a Commander !” He indeed laboured so successfully to attain his object, that his skilfulness and courage were not long unnoticed, especially while serving under Pichegru.

Moreau, accordingly, was not disappointed in his expectations ; for in June 1794, he was promoted to the rank of General in Chief, and conducted the siege of Ypres, which he took in twelve days after the opening of the trenches. The garrison, consisting of 6000 men, were made prisoners ; and 100 pieces of cannon, and 29 standards were taken. This event occurred on the 29th Prairial, 2d year. (17th June, 1794.)

In the following August, he took *Fort l'Ecluse*, containing 152 pieces of artillery.

If, however, this young General distinguished himself in a striking manner in all the different commands with which he was entrusted, during 1794, and 1795, the campaign of 1796 was destined to eclipse all his other achievements. In June he commanded three columns of the army of the Rhine and Moselle : with one of these he attacked Fort Kehl*, which soon after surrendered ; with the second, he crossed the Rhine at Watzenau ; and with the third, at Selt.

On

* Kehl was afterwards retaken, but not until it had experienced a long siege, that diverted the Austrian troops from infinitely greater objects.

On the 28th of June, the great battle of Kenchen was fought; in which General Moreau, after having been joined by his cavalry and artillery, forced the Austrians to retreat in great disorder, with the loss of 1200 men killed, a number of prisoners, ten pieces of cannon, &c. The field was covered with the slain.

July 5th, another general engagement took place between him and the Archduke Charles, when the Austrians were again defeated. From this victory he flew to a third, equally glorious, and more profitable to the French Republic. Upon the Upper Rhine he forced the Duke of Wirtemberg to solicit a suspension of arms, on conditions which were at once honorable and useful to the Republic: and while the army of the Sambre and Meuse was retreating under Jourdan, that of the Rhine and Moselle, under Moreau, was pursuing its victorious career, even to the gates of Ratibon, thus shaking the Germanic Empire to its centre!

It would occupy too much space in this volume,

The following *Billet* from the French Commander, will serve to shew, that he announced this event as if it had been a victory rather than a defeat.

General Moreau to the Minister at War.

21st Nivose (January 10th) 1797.

" Citizen Minister,

" I have only time to say, that Kehl will be evacuated this day at four o'clock. We carry away every thing, even the palisades and the enemy's bullets.

MOREAU."

to give a detail of all those military operations during a campaign that contributed to crown the brow of Moreau with unfading laurels.

The most glorious epoch of his military history was his masterly retreat out of Bavaria, which, in the judgment even of his most inveterate enemies, and of all professional men, was far more honourable to his talents than any of the victories which he had gained. Like Turenne, he served the interests of his country more by that measure, than he could have done by the most dazzling conquest; and if we account the former a consummate General, rather for his having kept in check superior bodies of the enemy, by his well concerted marches and counter-marches, than for any splendid victories obtained by him; we should in like manner, attribute to the latter the character of a great Commander, on account of his memorable retreat of 1796.

About the middle of September, affairs began to take an unfavourable turn, and Moreau, till now victorious, was forced to quit his position on the left bank of the Yser. He was pursued by the Austrian General Latour, and on the 29th, the enemy having made themselves masters of the highest parts of the mountains of the Black Forest, and of the rivulets, which, running westward to the Rhine, form the only passes whereby an army can descend from these mountains to the Brisgau; Moreau had no other alternative than either to attack the foe, in order to gain the *Vals d'Enfer*, which enter the Brisgau near the town of Fribourg,

Fribourg, or to make his retreat by the territory of Switzerland.

Finding himself closely followed by Latour, Moreau attacked him, but was repulsed with great loss, while, on another side, the Austrian General, Petrasch, posted between the sources of the Necker and of the Danube, incessantly harrassed the rear of the French.

At this critical moment it was reported and believed that Moreau was completely surrounded by the Austrians; that his army, in consequence, could not escape; that it must capitulate; that no possible art or exertion could prevent a total defeat; and that not one of his soldiers would ever reach France to carry the news of the misfortune. Europe, however, soon witnessed the inexhaustible means and resources which are in the power of a truly great General.

Early on the 2d of October, the left wing of the army crossed the Danube at Reidlingen, and repassing it at Murdurkingen, turned and defeated the Corps posted between the Federsee and that river. Moreau then attacked Latour in front, and after an action of six hours, maintained on both sides with great obstinacy, forced him to abandon his ground and retire behind the Rothambach. Thus a retreating army, by the unexpected audacity of its General, took more than 5000 of its pursuers prisoners, together with 20 pieces of cannon.

The General, having thus far succeeded in his design, recommenced his march by the route of Stock-

ach, and on the 18th of October reached Fribourg, and established his head quarters at Furg.

This retreat, will always constitute a memorable epoch in the annals of the Republic; and the name of Moreau will stand conspicuous among the Buonapartes, the Turennes, the Marlboroughs, the Eugenes, the Villarses, the Fredericks, and, in short, the most celebrated of modern Generals.

A well authenticated anecdote, does no less honour to the character of Moreau, than his various military exploits achieved within the compass of so short a period.

His unfortunate and virtuous father, before he was guillotined, made a will, in which he advised, with much paternal affection, that his son should marry a lady whom he named to him. Moreau, alike the dutiful son and able General, quitted the army as soon as possible, repaired to Morlaix, shed tears over the grave of his parent, and became united to the amiable Lady who had been recommended in his will: Filial obedience is in common men a duty; in great men heroism.

Soon after this epoch, his laurels appeared all of a sudden to be blasted, and his disgrace, and even punishment seemed inevitable. Pichegru, under whom he had at first distinguished himself, and with whom he was still connected by the ties of friendship, began to be suspected. On the Revolution of the 18th *Fructidor*, 5th year, (September 4, 1797), a correspondence, supposed to be highly criminal, was detected, and Moreau was first arrested, and soon after dismissed from his command.

The storm, however, seems now to have blown over, for he has been lately sent to the army of Italy, in quality of *Inspector General*, and should hostilities be renewed, he will undoubtedly be placed once more in some eminent and effective situation.

DANTON.

George-Jacques Danton, born at *Arcis sur Aube*, was considered at one period as the *Ajax* of the Revolution. His extraordinary vigour of mind and personal courage left him no equal in his political career. The frame of his body was athletic, and his conceptions gigantic; he was that kind of pilot, who in a dreadful storm keeps the frightened seaman to his duty, and prevents the bark from being abandoned to its fate.

In all new dangers, and great or unexpected shocks, his colleagues were eager to learn his opinion of the measures to be pursued. Thus it was that in the trying crisis of the Revolution, when Valenciennes, Condé, and Quesnoy, were in the hands of the Austrians and English; Mayence in those of the Prussians, Lyons in Rebellion, and the *Vendée* throughout in insurrection; Bourdeaux, Marseilles, Brest, and many other ports and capital towns in a state of disaffection—the Men of highest consideration with the legislature and the people, not only solicited him to become a member of the committee of public welfare, but offered to propose the erecting it into a permanent government or directory, provided they could assure themselves of his continued assistance, and

count upon the benefits arising from his personal influence.

Danton had sagacity enough to see the danger of the proposition, which he nevertheless rejected with an air of complacency. This is the precise moment when the hatred and jealousy of Robespierre became implacable, and from which Danton's certain ruin may be dated. The great share of popularity which the latter enjoyed rendered him odious in the eyes of the former, who was playing, though with less éclat, a deeper game. Robespierre considered Danton as a luminary of greater magnitude, capable of eclipsing his own brightness; and the most discerning among the partizans of both these men regarded them as two suns which could not shine together in one hemisphere. Nevertheless it required all the art and all the hypocrisy Robespierre was master of, to pull down so mighty a Colossus: he therefore managed his hatred, and concealed his deadly design, till a proper moment should offer when its accomplishment could scarcely be doubted.

In the mean while, though Danton refused to *act*, he never shewed himself backward to *advise* upon what ought to be done in occasions of exigency. Thus when it was apprehended that the armies could no longer maintain their ground, or continue under arms for want of necessaries, he recommended the measure of putting every article required for the service under *requisition*.

“The country has need (said he) of all its resources, to save itself from the ravages of external enemies ;

enemies; why do we hesitate therefore a moment about the propriety of impressing those resources? Every bushel of corn, every grain of gold to purchase it, if needful, may lawfully be forced into the service to free us a people from complete subjugation:" and then with the voice of a Stentor he added:

"The revolutionary wheel appears to move with languor, apply a new lever to it, and I will undertake for its progress (*y-appliquer une nouvelle manivelle & ça ira j'en réponds.*)" These words resembling thunder in sound, and lightning in effect, electrified the whole assembly, and especially the energetic part of it, which was denominated *the Mountain*. The saving their country thus *declared to be in danger*, they considered to be an imperious duty, and therefore from this moment they were less scrupulous about the means than they were determined as to the end.

Upon this followed the establishment of the Revolutionary Tribunal, of which he was the prime mover, the law of the *maximum*, the *armée révolutionnaire*, the decree for remunerating the citizens with forty sous a day, for the loss of time while attending the sectional committees; with all the other extraordinary proceedings which, when the danger was over, were called *ultra-revolutionary*. He, therefore, beyond all contradiction, did *more* for the Revolution than any one of the actors in it.

Danton had been a commissioner with Lacroix in the Low Countries, when the army of Dumourier over-ran it; and rumours were circulated that he had enriched himself in that expedition to the dis-

honour of his country. But where are the riches which these accused men have been suspected of amassing? Every thing he had, was confiscated to the nation, but no wealth was found. It was not so with the Farmers-general, for when the decree (a cruel decree every one must allow) took away their lives, their vast possessions were exposed. The enemies of the former men were no less merciless than those of the last. If there had been any reality in the charge of speculation, the proof would have been brought forward without doubt.

Danton after all was an ambitious man. He was at the head of a faction, and had almost the whole of a formidable society under his dictation. The *Cordeliers* ranged under his banner, as the *Jacobins* did under that of Robespierre. These clubs had both been *purified* again and again, which means nothing more or less than that they were fashioned to the designs of their leaders, whom they were implicitly to obey and follow. The jealousy or rivalry of these two clubs furnished their champions with sufficient weapons of destruction. The finesse of Robespierre prevailed over the frankness of his adversary, and by means of the trick (now grown quite stale) of an Orleans faction, Danton, Herault, Fabre, and five others of that class, were consigned to the deadly tribunal. In consequence of their demurring to the *legality* of the proceedings, they were all put out of the law (*mis hors la loi*), and executed the very day their trial was expected only to commence. By this precipitancy the *Cordeliers*, both men and women, were anticipated

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in their resolve to rescue Danton, the favourite of the populace, at the place of execution. His last words accorded with the last actions of his life : indeed he never spoke but his language, though very different from the *magnum loqui* of Horace, gave his hearers an idea of something more than common. When Fouquier Tinville, the public accuser, interrogated him according to the custom of the court, as to his name, occupation, and residence, “ *I am Danton (answered he) well known as a Deputy to the National Convention; my residence in a few hours hence will be in the grave: but my name shall live in the Pantheon of history.*”

Thus fell one of the most energetic Revolutionists of France, to the grief of the *Sans-culottes*, the joy of the *Aristocrats*, and the astonishment of all who had not considered what ferocious passions are brought into activity by a great contest like the present.

Danton was but 35 years of age, tall and corpulent, of strong and harsh features, with a powerful voice, and a manner peculiarly impressive. By his mien, taken all together, it appeared that nature intended him more for the turbulent than the calmer walks of life*. He was bred to the law, and as is supposed, was expressly chosen Minister of Justice at the eventful period of the arrests in August and September 1792, on account of his morose disposition, and the vengeance he had uniformly sworn

* His ruthless disposition and terrific aspect occasioned him to be likened to Neptune striking on all sides with his trident, and on all sides, either creating or assuaging the tempest.

against the partizans of the court. He was charged (and we fear but too justly) with connivance, while in office, at the massacres of the prisoners on the 3d and 4th of September 1792. This is however a transaction covered with almost as much obscurity as atrocity, and which perhaps may never be fully exposed to light. He compleated his 35th year the day before his death, being born on the 4th of April, 1759, and guillotined on the 5th of April, 1794.

Of this singular man, Garat seems disposed to think well, and supposes that he meditated a new revolution, against Robespierre, and in favour of liberty, after which it was his determination to repair to his farm at *Arcis sur Aube*, and spend the remainder of his life in the enjoyment of domestic felicity, and the pleasures of a country life.

Soon after the memorable events of the 31st of May, in the guilt of which day Danton but too deeply participated, when Garat hinted to him his opinion, couched in the ingenuous confession of Aristides: "that Athens would never be at peace, until both himself and his rival Themistocles, were thrown into the *Barathrum* ;"* he replied with tears in his eyes: "that he would propose to the Convention an *Ostracism* for the leaders of both parties, and most willingly repair to Bourdeaux, as a hostage for the public safety.'

* A deep and obscure gulph, into which criminals were precipitated.

GENERAL PICHEGRU.

When hostilities with the Emperor were inevitable, the want of Generals in France became matter of triumph to the *Aristocrats*, and of despair to the patriotic party. The loss of Maillebois, de Broglio, and de Castries, was thought irreparable, and the fortune of the state became entrusted to the driveller Rochambeau, to La Fayette, a partizan in the *petite guerre* of America, and to the stupid Luckner, who, after 30 years service in the French army, knew not enough of the language to return thanks for a compliment paid him by the Jacobins.

It was natural, however, to suppose, that when the qualification of General was extended to a whole army, more would be found than when it was confined to a few individuals. And so upon experiment it proved. In every campaign we have seen private soldiers and even private citizens giving proofs of the highest military talents; and have often been astonished at receiving the news of a splendid victory along with the first mention of the successful commander's name. Of all the French Generals, Buonaparte alone excepted, no one has gained greater renown than Pichegru.

General Pichegru was born in 1761, at Arbois,* in Franche-Comté. His parentage was mean, but he received a good education, under the tuition of the

* This town was formerly included within the Bailiwick of Aval, and at present constitutes part of the Department of Jura.

monks belonging to a convent in his native town. Having made great progress in the sciences, he was sent by the good friars to teach philosophy and mathematics, in a college appertaining to their order at Brienne. This circumstance gave rise to the ill-founded report of his having been a monk of the order of *Minims*.

He afterwards enlisted in the first regiment of artillery, and soon rose to the rank of serjeant, the highest to which a plebeian could aspire; but when the Revolution came, and opened a road for untitled merit, he was promoted step by step to the command of an army.

The first mention of his name as a general officer, was in consequence of a victory he had obtained over the combined armies at Hagenau, on the 8th and 9th of December, 1793. The report of this splendid action having been read to the Convention, a decree was instantly issued, in consequence of which he was appointed to succeed Jourdan in the command of the army of the North.

He had not been long known, when, in conjunction with Hoche, he marched to the relief of Landau. Though it was in the midst of a severe winter, the attack on the Austrian positions was renewed day after day, with doubtful success. On the 5th Pichegru was seen in the front of the line, in the midst of a tremendous fire, waving his hand and exclaiming, *Point de retraite aujourd'hui mes enfans !** That day

* “ No retreat, my boys, to-day.”

there was no retreat ; and very shortly after Landau was relieved.

At the beginning of the ensuing campaign, he was appointed to oppose Cobourg in the north ; and *ordered* by Robespierre's committee *to conquer*.—This imperious command, which plainly implied that the guillotine would be the reward of ill-success, was accompanied by directions to press the Austrians in the centre, and to content himself with harrassing them upon the flanks. Finding that the blood of his soldiers flowed to no purpose as long as he did so, he left Landrecies to its fate, and boldly advanced into the enemy's country upon Cobourg's left. The victories of Meucron, Courtray, and Hoogleden, justified this movement. Jourdan, who commanded the army of the Sambre and Meuse, being ultimately successful upon the right, Prince Cobourg was obliged to fall back with his centre, and abandon his conquests in French Flanders, as well as the whole of the Austrian Netherlands.

This campaign would have been still more decisive, if a plan devised by Pichegru and Carnot could have been carried into execution. While a sufficient force was acting upon the front of the allies, and fifty thousand men were guarding the passage of the Rhine, to prevent their receiving reinforcements, the army of the Moselle was to have fallen upon their rear. This plan, by placing Prince Cobourg between two fires, would have insured his total ruin, and cut the sinews of the war at a single blow ; but its execution

tion was prevented by the necessity of incorporating the army of the Moselle with that of the North.

Having thus rid himself of the Austrians, Pichegru turned towards Holland, and availing himself of a seasonable frost, which gave his troops a free passage across the rivers and canals, pushed the British and Dutch army before him, and entirely over-ran a country, unconquerable perhaps in any other circumstances.

In this brilliant career of conquest, Pichegru made great innovations in the art of war. Contrary to the practice of other Generals, he never laid siege to a fortified place that was not necessary to secure his position. Instead of filling the enemy's ditches with the dead bodies of his best troops, he very wisely preferred driving their armies out of the field at much less expence of blood, being confident that the fortresses would afterwards fall of themselves.

He was also the inventor of that system of incessant attack, which is so congenial to the temper of the French nation, and which so completely baffled all the deliberate plans of the coalesced powers. Of this system the value was well understood by the King of Prussia, who, in a letter to the Emperor, expressed himself in the following words:—"The French Generals pursue incomparable plans of operation, which disconcert and defeat all our projects."

The official accounts that Pichegru gave of his victories, in which he seldom mentioned more than the result, formed a singular contrast with the rhodomontade

montade of the National Commissioners, who never failed to call the enemy slaves and cowards; and to make thousands of them *bite the dust*, with the loss of some half-dozen Republicans. A great part of his modesty is, however, supposed to have originated in a fear of exciting the jealousy of Robespierre and his associates. In spite of all this caution, a member of the Mountain party reproached him at Brussels with the greatness of his reputation. "*Citizen Representative*, (answered the General) *I perceive that Aristocracy has only changed hands among us.*"

Pichegru's humanity is no less honourable to him than his achievements in the field. He constantly resisted the barbarous decree which forbade the giving of quarter to English or Hanoverians, as well as that which directed the execution of the Austrian garrisons of Valenciennes, Condé, Le Quesnoy, and Landre-cies, if they did not surrender upon the first summons. This latter he meant to elude by not summoning them till they should be reduced to the last extremity; but he was over-ruled by the National Commissioners, to whom the brave Commandant of Le Quesnoy made answer, that he knew of no right one nation had to order another to dishonour itself!

The mercy of the French Generals in sparing the lives of these devoted men, nearly cost them their own.—The Russian Robespierre denounced Pichegru, Moreau, and some others, the very day before his fall, and would certainly have pursued them to the guillotine, if he had not been brought thither himself.

Holland being subdued, Pichegru took the command of the armies upon the Rhine, and made considerable progress in Germany in the following campaign; but at the end of it, the tide of war turned and drove him back upon the French frontiers.—This was the end of his military career.—He was removed from his command, and offered the embassy to Sweden* as a compensation. He thought proper, however, to refuse it, and retired to his native town in such narrow circumstances that he was obliged to sell his horses and camp equipage for his support.

From this poverty, neglect, and privacy, he was rescued by his fellow citizens, by whom he was elected a member of the Legislative Body in the year 1797. When he took his seat, the Council of Five Hundred rose, as a mark of respect, and unanimously appointed him their first President.

In the senate Pichegru was invariably in opposition to the Executive Directory; and continued to abet all the plans that were brought forward to favour the return of the emigrants and priests, till he was arrested as a principal conspirator in a supposed plot to produce a counter-revolution, and ordered by the Legislative Body to be transported without a trial! †

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* On this occasion, he was mentioned “as a man, whom the French nation could present either to its friends, or its enemies.”

† The following passages are extracted from a letter, written by General Moreau to Barthelemy, the Director, dated “Head-quarters,

The guilt of this general has never been fairly ascertained. He is indeed represented as having been bribed by the Prince de Condé to place Louis XVIII. on the throne; and he in return was to have

quarters, Strasburgh, 19th Fructidor, 5th year," (5th September, 1797).

"Citizen-Director,

"You will easily recollect, that during my last journey to Basle, I informed you, that in consequence of the passage of the Rhine, we had taken a packet belonging to General Klingin, containing two or three hundred letters of his correspondents. Many of these are in cyphers, and nobody takes his real name, so that several Frenchmen who correspond with Klingin, Condé, Wickham, D'Enghien, and others, are difficult to be discovered, &c.

"I was at first determined not to publish this correspondence, but perceiving at the head of the parties who at present do so much mischief to our country, a man enjoying, in an eminent situation, the greatest confidence, *a man deeply involved in this correspondence, and destined to perform an important part in the recall of the Pretender*, the object to which it was directed, I thought it my duty to apprise you of this circumstance, *that you might not be the dupe of his famed republicanism*, &c.

"I confess, Citizen-Director, that it is extremely painful to inform you of this treachery, more especially as he whom I now denounce to you was once my friend, and would be so still, were I not now acquainted with his character. *I allude to the Representative of the People, Pichegru*. He was prudent enough to commit nothing to writing. He only communicated verbally with those who were entrusted with the correspondence; they apprized him of the projects entertained, and received his answers. He is there designed by several names; and, among others, by that of *Baptiste*. A chief of Brigade, named Baudoville, was concerned with him, and went by the name of *Coco*.

"Their grand movement was intended to have taken place at the

have been appointed a Marshal of France, and Governor of Alsace; to have received a large feudal territory and park; a million of livres in ready money; a pension of 200,000 livres a-year, and the *terre d'Arbois*, which was to be called *la terre de Pichegru*.

Buonaparte also transmitted from Italy, a paper found in the portfolio of M. d'Antraignes, an emigrant in the confidence of Louis XVIII. containing Pichegru's plan for restoring monarchy in France. In this, which was suspected to be written while at the head of the French army in Germany, he offered to cross the Rhine, to hoist the white standard, join the armies of Condé and the Emperor, and march to Paris, which he expected to enter in fourteen days.

This scheme is said to have failed through the jealousy of the Prince de Condé; and, if we are to believe his enemies, Pichegru was attempting, in the Council of Five Hundred, what he had not been

the beginning of the FOURTH YEAR. They calculated upon some defeat sustained by my army, which discontented at being defeated, should demand to be placed under the command of their old General, who then was to have acted according to the instructions he had received. He obtained nine hundred *Louis* to defray the expences of his journey to Paris, at the time of his dismissal. Hence naturally arose the refusal of the embassy to Sweden.

“ Nothing but the great confidence which I entertain of your patriotism and wisdom could have determined me to give you this information. *The proofs are as clear as day. I doubt, however, whether they be judicial, &c.*”

able to effect in the army, when he was suddenly arrested on the night of the 4th of September, after some resistance, and soon after shipped for Cayenne.

From this colony he, however, found means to make his escape, and is this moment in London.

At the opening of the last session of Parliament, he was present in the House of Peers while his Majesty was reciting his speech, and, by a strange coincidence, happened to stand on the steps of the throne, close to the Stadtholder, whom he had driven from the summit of power. Thus, after the lapse of only a few months, both the conqueror and the conquered found themselves exiles in the same country, and even under the same roof!

Pichegru is stout, athletic, about five feet six inches high, and well fitted by nature to encounter the fatigues of war. Upon a first acquaintance there is something austere about him; but this roughness wears off after a little intercourse.

Though by no means of a phlegmatic disposition, he is always cool and deliberate in his conduct. The extent and versatility of his talents were fully shewn by his taking the lead in the senate* as well as in the field. In a word, though Pichegru may be deemed by the French to be a great traitor, it cannot be denied that he is a very great man.

* Being unacquainted with the forms of discussion, and the minutiae of business, he was assisted while in the Council of Five Hundred, with the advice of Vaublanc.

FERRAND,

Was a man of talents and virtues. In the *Prairial* insurrection, he presented his breast, scarred with honourable wounds, to the fury of the populace that broke into the Convention, requesting them to spare the sanctuary of the laws.

In this posture he received a deadly stab, and fell at the foot of the tribune, pierced with sabres and bayonets. His bleeding head being cut off, was carried on a pike and placed before the President.

This truly patriotic and courageous deputy was born in the valley of Aure, at the foot of the Pyrenees, where he had left an aged father whom he dearly loved, and a young maiden to whom he was betrothed.

The assassin of Ferrand was rescued on his way to the place of execution, but he was afterwards retaken and put to death.

CHAUMETTE.

Pierre Gasparin Chaumette, the Revolutionary Recorder of Paris, was a native of the town of *Nevers*, in the Orleanois. Few men excited more attention in France for the time, or had a more hateful task to perform, during the tragical part of the Revolution, than Chaumette.

He had been bred to the sea; but not relishing that kind of life, and failing to obtain preferment, he quitted it, and lived by his *pen*, which he certainly knew how to manage more to his profit than the *compass*. He could, however, speak better, and more fluently, than he could write.

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He had also been employed as a librarian and amanuensis to a dignitary of the church, in the diocese of Nivernois ; but, at the commencement of the troubles in France, was actually a clerk to an attorney, and occasionally wrote essays for the newspapers, as well as trifles for the stage. He was one of the chief disciples of Camille Desmoulins, and among the first who wore the tri-coloured cockade in their hats, just before the taking of the Bastille.

He greatly out-ran his own apostle, in zeal for the new faith ; for when Camille was composing the first number of his *Vieux Cordelier*, with the hope of tranquillising the overheated imaginations of the leaders of democracy, and tempering the public rage against the real or supposed enemies of the new order of things, Chaumette was still further inflaming and directing their vengeance against particular individuals.

It was Chaumette who instigated the Commune of Paris to demand the trial of the Queen ; and he became one of the committee that prepared the charges, and regulated the evidence, against that ill-fated woman. He was a witness too against her, at the Revolutionary Tribunal, and undertook to reprimand M. La Tour Dupin, formerly minister at war under Louis XVI. for not exposing those anecdotes of Antoinette's conduct, which, it was insisted on, he was privy to.

The most odious part of this man's character, as to his charge against this unfortunate Queen, was a pretended incestuous *penchant* towards her infant son, till then confined with her in the Temple. This
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insinuation, for it could be called no more, shocked the whole court and auditory, especially the female part of it, and immediately sunk the accuser in the popular opinion. Even Robespierre himself, under whose auspices he was believed to act, grew outrageous when he was told of this article, infinitely more absurd than all the rest; and it is not denied, even by her bitterest enemies, that that culpable and lost Princess was murdered, under the form of a Revolutionary trial. Whatever might have been the amount of her errors, had they been fairly enumerated or weighed, and whatever punishment might have been pronounced on them, the fact is, that nothing like justice was done her in that mock ceremony.

No sooner was the tyrant informed that the *Procureur of the Commune* had exhibited a charge of so unnatural a complexion against the unhappy prisoner, than he exclaimed—"The fool! was it not enough that he had proved her a *Messalina*; but must he make an *Agrippina* of her too?" Robespierre instantly perceived, that this abominable conduct of Chaumette would hurt the credit of the cause; on which account he never forgave him, though he allowed his zeal to continue to operate on inferior objects, till it at length whelmed himself in ruin. Chaumette had credit now with none but the very *scum* of the revolution; and such recrementitious matter will always be thrown off in national ebullitions of this kind.

Although Robespierre was at this time in the very zenith of his power, yet Chaumette moved such a proposition in the full Commune, as gave reason to many to believe, that he would set up as his rival in

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the city. This daring motion was to unite all the heads of the forty-eight sections of Paris in one council ; a measure that would have superseded the force of the legislature itself, if not its authority. This was a project, conceived in common with the famous Hebert, Momoro, and Mazuel, and would have been aided in its execution by the daring Ronfin, who at that time commanded a body of the (*armée révolutionnaire*) revolutionary army.

How far Robespierre was apprized of, or approved the scheme, does not appear ; many shrewd observers of what was passing, seemed satisfied that it was to have been only a prelude “ to the swelling act” which was to follow, when the hero of the piece was to have been in full play.

The majority of the Convention saw through the veil which covered the workings of the plot, and anticipated their own danger, should it be carried into effect. They, therefore, without loss of time, annulled the proceedings, and declared all to be rebels who should persist therein. Chaumette appeared to put a good face on this correction. He told the Commune, on its next meeting, that his proposition must be relinquished ; for the Convention, with a paternal, though severe voice, had stamped with nullity their former resolution, and that it became them, like dutiful children, to submit. Hebert, Momoro, and Mazuel, were soon after accused as traitors, imprisoned, tried, and executed ; but Chaumette survived a short time longer, as his enemies thought it safer to wear away by degrees the remaining popular partiality for him, before he should be struck at.

He was taken up, however, on the 26th of March, 1794, under a charge of conspiring, with the foregoing men, against the government, and guillotined on the 13th of April following, without the smallest effort, on the part of Robespierre, to save him.

He confessed, at the place of execution, that the Revolution had inflamed his imagination, and at times intoxicated his brain, from the too free gratification of his vengeance, for the personal injuries he had received. He said, also, that three instances had come to light, of his aristocratic and inveterate enemies attempting his life; and that a desire of reprisal, in which he conceived the safety of the commonwealth in some measure involved, made him seek all occasions for arrogating power; but that he never cherished an idea of possessing any permanent authority not even of a secondary or subordinate nature.

LANJUINAIS,

Previously to the Revolution, was an advocate of very distinguished reputation at Rennes, in Brittany, and he was appointed by this Province, in 1789, a Deputy to the States-General.

Soon after the meeting of that body, he projected the plan of the *Breton*, since known under the name of the Jacobin Club, and by this single act, may be said to have been the remote cause of all those eventful transactions which have since agitated France, and all Europe. He took the idea of such an institution from a similar society, held during a former convocation of the States-General, in the reign of Henry the Third, and from its meeting under a *por-*

tico of the royal palace of Blois, called *the Portico of the Bretons*. This club of Lanjuinais, was at first called the *Breton Club*, but on the removal of the National Assembly to Paris, it assumed the name of the *Jacobin Club*, from its meetings being held in a convent of the Dominican Friars, called after the Saint of that name.

On the dissolution of the National Assembly, Lanjuinais retired to Rennes ; but on the calling of the National Convention, he was appointed a deputy to it. In this turbulent body, wherein to appear conspicuous more boldness and enthusiasm were requisite than philosophy and equanimity, he remained inactive till the proscription of the Brissotins. Conceiving that from this period the representatives would be controlled by the Parisian cut-throats, he with 72 others, united in a strong protest. A decree of accusation was, in consequence, passed against them, and those who scorned to fly, of which Lajuinais was one, were committed to prison. It is well known that, after the overthrow of Robespierre, they were all restored to their seats in the legislature.

His sufferings tended only to increase the esteem in which he was before held by his colleagues ; till the dissolution of the Convention, therefore, he was considered as one of the leading members. He was first chosen President, afterwards voted into the Committee of Legislation, which was appointed for the purpose of forming a new Republican Constitution, and has always been considered as one of the most able, upright, and active of the French legislators.

Lanjuinais continued to sit in the new assembly,

as a member of the Council of Ancients, and proved the constant censor of the Council of Five Hundred, when any law was proposed, inconsistent with principles of justice and public utility. He firmly opposed the decree for sequestrating the estates of the relations of emigrants, and his speech contained the following laudable sentiment: “*Know, my countrymen, (said he) that the eyes of all Europe are fixed upon us. Let us prove ourselves just, and demonstrate, that in the course of the Revolution, we have been always led away by error, and never by crime.*”

On the renewal of the last third it was the lot of Lanjuinais, to return to the station of a private citizen. He carried with him the esteem of all rational Republicans. His present residence is at Rennes, in a modest and virtuous obscurity, consistent with his philosophical character. Before the detection of the late conspiracy, he was one of those Republicans who deprecated the dangers to which his country was reduced, by the known existence of traitors in the two councils, and who observed with sorrow, the countenance given to *royalism* and *fanaticism*.

Lanjuinais is about sixty years of age, of a middle size, very thin visage, and not handsome. He is reputed to be a firm believer in the tenets of Christianity; and on all occasions has shown himself the friend of religious toleration.

M. DE LA TUDE.

This extraordinary man, a noble by birth, and an officer by profession, was imprisoned for a great number of years in the Bastille, the dungeons of Vincennes,

nes, and the Bicêtre, by order of Madame de Pompadour, the mistress of Louis XV, whom, unluckily, he had offended. By means of a rope-ladder, four hundred feet in length, with two hundred steps, or cross-bands, all constructed out of shirts and stockings, carefully unravelled for that purpose, he and his companion, d'Alegre, found means to escape from one of the towers of the Bastille.

At Amsterdam, he was claimed by the French Ambassador, conducted in chains to Paris, and indulged, or rather punished, with the sight of his former companion, whom he found raving-mad in the hospital for lunatics at Charenton !

After remaining forty months in his old apartment in the Bastille, he learned, by means of a piece of paper pasted on a window in *la rue de St. Antoine*, that the Marchioness was no more; but as he refused to disclose how he came by this intelligence, he was remanded by M. de Sartines, then *Lieutenant de Police*, to the dungeon at Vincennes, whence he escaped, by knocking down two centinels. Being again taken, he was committed to a gloomy cell in the *Bicêtre*; whence he was at length extricated by the kindness of a charitable lady, called Madame le Gros, who became surety for his good behaviour, and actually maintained him out of her little income.

The Memoirs of Henry Mafers de la Tude, containing an account of his confinement during *thirty-five* years in the state prisons of France, were published in 1788, and made a great noise throughout all Europe, as they *verified* every thing asserted relative

to the horrid despotism that had prevailed, and might at any future time be renewed in that kingdom.

MESDEMOISELLES DE FERNIGS.

These two young heroines were the daughters of a quarter-master of cavalry; and by accompanying the troops in their excursions, at the beginning of the war, attained a certain degree of attachment to military exploits, and even an enthusiasm against the common enemy. Unlike the "Maid of Orleans," they were dressed in female attire, and pretended neither to prophecy nor to revelation; but they headed the French troops in 1791, with the same boldness that the martial female alluded to, was accustomed to do, two centuries before.

Dumouriez, who never let slip any occasion of inspiring his army with confidence, invited these ladies to the camp at Maulde; and made such a flattering report to the Convention of their modesty, intrepidity, and good conduct, that they received a house, and an adjoining piece of land, as a present from the Republic.

On the defection of this General, preferring gratitude to duty, and personal attachment to the love of their country, they both took part with him, and were outlawed.

It is not a little remarkable, that this hoary-headed warrior, although old enough to be the *grandfather* of most of our *generals*, has yet found means to attach a great number of ladies to him; some young and handsome, and some old, but accomplished.

ANACHARSIS CLOOTS,*

Was born in Cleves. Although a Prussian, a Baron, and a man of fortune, he seems to have imbibed, while yet a boy, a taste for liberty; and, indeed, notwithstanding his singularities and extravagancies, he never appears to have belied his original opinions, although his conduct frequently threw an air of ridicule over them. At an early period of life, he travelled into all the different countries of Europe; and being rich, noble, and sprightly, he was every where received with distinguished marks of attention.

While in England, he frequently visited Mr. Burke, to whom he was introduced by means of letters from some very learned and respectable men on the Continent.

The interview between the Philosopher of Beaconsfield, and the "Orator of the human race," will be deemed less whimsical, perhaps, than may be at first imagined; when it is known, that Mr. Burke, at the period alluded to, was neither the pensioner nor the pandar of royalty, but upheld a lofty character for independence, and possessed some of those very singularities so conspicuous in his friend Anacharsis.

M. Cloots was not only the nephew of a man of letters,† but actually a man of letters himself.

* His baptismal name was *Jean Baptiste*: he adopted that of Anacharsis.

† Cornelius Pauw, author of many learned works, particularly "*Recherches Philosophiques sur les Americains, ou Mémoires intéressans pour servir à l'Histoire de l'Espèce Humaine.*" A Berlin, M.DCC.LXXI.

In 1792, he published a small octavo volume, entitled “*La République Universelle, ou Adresse aux Tyrannicides* ;” which was printed at Paris, in “the fourth year of the Redemption,” and had “*Veritas atque libertas*,” by way of motto. Voltaire having signed himself the Representative of Philosophers, the author pretends to be “the Representative of the Oppressed ;” and claims an “universal apostleship for the gratuitous defence of the millions of slaves, who groan from one pole to the other.” In this tract he asserts, that nations are not to be delivered by the blade of a poniard, but by the rays of truth—“Steel can kill only the tyrant, but tyranny itself may be destroyed by knowledge.”

The following is a speech delivered by Anacharsis, at the bar of the Legislative Assembly, to which he had conducted a deputation of Dutch, Spaniards, Italians, Germans, Americans, and Asiatics, a little before the grand confederation—

“Legislators!

“The awe-inspiring standards of the French empire are about to be displayed on the 14th of July, in the Field of Mars, the same place where *Julian trampled all prejudices under foot* ! This civic solemnity will not only be the festival of the French people, but that of the human race. The trumpet, which proclaims the resurrection of a great empire, has resounded to the four corners of the world ; and the joyful songs of a chorus of twenty-five millions of freemen have awakened the nations buried in a long slavery. The wisdom of your decrees, and the union
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of the children of France; that ravishing picture of human felicity, afford bitter anxiety to despots, and just hopes to the enslaved.

“ We have also conceived a great thought; and shall we venture to say, that it will complete the triumphs of this glorious day? A number of foreigners, assembled from all the different corners of the earth, ask leave to range themselves in the midst of the Field of Mars; and the cap of Liberty, which they will elevate with transport, shall be the pledge of the approaching deliverance of their unhapy fellow-citizens.

“ The triumphant generals of ancient Rome dragged conquered nations at their chariot-wheels; but you, exhibiting a noble contrast, behold freemen in your train, whose native countries, at this moment in chains, will become one day free also, by the influence of your unshaken courage, and your philosophical laws.

“ No embassy was ever so sacred: our letters of credit are not written upon parchment; our mission is engraven in everlasting characters in the hearts of all men; and, thanks to the authors of the DECLARATION OF RIGHTS, these characters will be no longer unintelligible to tyrants.

“ You have recognized the great truth, that all sovereignty resides in the people. Now the people are every where under the yoke of dictators, who call themselves sovereigns, in despite of your principles. Dictatorship may be usurped, but sovereignty is inviolable; and the ambassadors of tyrants would not

confer so much honour on your august festival as we, whose mission is tacitly owned by our countrymen—by the sovereign people, under oppression.

“What a lesson for despots! what a consolation to unfortunate nations! when we shall inform them, that the first people of Europe has given the signal for the happiness of mankind in both hemispheres!

“We shall now retire, and wait in respectful silence for the result of your deliberations on the petition, dictated to us by the enthusiasm for universal liberty.”*

Cloots was a great advocate for one common language, and so well convinced of the necessity of one universal government, that he deems two suns above

* This motley embassy, if we are to believe some, consisted of very respectable persons, natives of the countries of which they assumed the representation. On the other hand, if we are to credit others, they were actually *clothed* and *paid* for that purpose. The following passages contains the sentiments of a Deputy on this subject:

“Cette séance étoit réservée pour des événemens extraordinaires. Dès l'ouverture on vit se présenter des Députés de toutes les nations du monde dans le costume *de leur prétendue patrie*, venant féliciter l'Assemblée Nationale sur l'heureux succès de ses travaux; et ces *prétendus* ambassadeurs donc aucun peut-être n'avoit vu le pays qu'il disoit représenter, *n'étoient que des gens qu'on avoit payés pour jouer ce rôle*.

“L'un d'eux s'étant trompé de logement & de nom, a été demander à M. le Marquis de Biencourt, Député de Gueret, le salaire de cette journée. Comment les inventeurs de ces fraudes prétendues pieuses n'ont-ils pas senti qu'ils insultoient ainsi de la manière la plus outrageante & a plus criminelle, la dignité de l'Assemblée National.”

one horizon, or a pair of gods in heaven, not more absurd than two separate nations upon earth!

He was accustomed to treat a name revered by all *Christians* as that of an impostor; and so bitter was this extraordinary enmity, that he is said to have declared himself the personal enemy of J — C — !

Anacharsis, a Prussian by birth, a Frenchman by adoption, and a citizen of the world by choice, at last found means to become a member of the National Convention. On the great question respecting the death of the King, he voted in the affirmative; and with the same breath passed sentence on the head of the house of Brandenburg, and Louis XVI.—“*Et je condamne pareillement à mort l'infame Frederick Guillaume!*”

Soon after this he was implicated in the affair of *Père Duchesne*, arrested, sent to prison, and (as Robespierre *never forgave*) he was put to death on the 24th of March, 1794. It is but justice to state, that he continued faithful to his principles, and that he appears to have died innocent. It is not a little singular, that he insisted on being the last person executed that day, in order to have an opportunity of instilling certain principles into the mind of each of his fellow-sufferers, by means of a short harangue, which he pronounced as the fatal guillotine was about to descend on his neck.

It is, on the whole, perhaps, a misfortune to the cause of liberty, that such a man should have declared himself among its assertors.

PASTORET,

Both *thought* and *wrote* before the Revolution. In 1788, he published a work entitled, "*Moïse considéré comme Législateur & comme Moraliste*," by way of supplement to his comparison between Zoroaster, Confucius, and Mahomet, which conferred some celebrity on his talents, and breathed throughout a spirit of liberty and investigation.

Such works as these at length taught the people to *think* also, and they began to be published in great plenty. Even in 1787, M. Mathon de la Cour, a member of the Academy of Lyons and Villefranche, obtained the prize from the Academy of Chalons-sur-Marne, for his "*Discours sur les meilleurs Moyens de faire naître, et d'encourager le Patriotisme dans une Monarchie*;" in which he ably discriminates between patriotism and the love of one's country.—"Patriotism, more rare," says he, "because it is more disinterested, than the love of our country, is an ardent desire of serving our compatriots, and of contributing to their welfare, happiness, and security. This desire, noble in itself, is such as is felt by the noble and virtuous; while the most selfish wretch loves his country only as it concerns his own welfare, the true patriot is always ready to sacrifice to it, not only his dearest interests, but even his life."

This magical word *patriotism*, which began to be known and proclaimed throughout France, contained within it the *embrio* of liberty; and Pastoret, Condorcet, and Brissot, but developed the germ, planted indeed,

indeed by the hand of Nature in the human heart, and watered by the hands of Rousseau and Voltaire.

On the dissolution of the States General, Pastoret was elected a Deputy to the legislative body, of which he had the honour to be elected first President, on its meeting, which took place on the 1st of October, 1791; but he soon after retired in disgust. He however was returned a member to the succeeding Assembly, and for a time acquired great applause by his liberality and zeal, having, among other things, attempted a reform in the penal code, and proposed some salutary regulations respecting the trial by jury, so far as the intention, or what we in our courts term the *quo animo*, is concerned. He also reproached the Directory, for their conduct in respect to the Commissioners of Louis XVIII. and denied with equal spirit and truth that they had any right to try them by military law.

Soon after this he became one of the most strenuous opposers of the present government; contended on popular grounds for a strict administration of the constitution, and declared himself ready to watch over and withstand the encroachments of a Directory, with as much jealousy and vigor as those of a King. On the 2d of Messidor, 5th year, while others were condemning the treaty between England and America, as unfaithful on the part of the latter power, to her engagements with France, he strenuously defended it, in all its parts and provisions; a circumstance which excited the surprise of many of his colleagues,

leagues, and exposed him to much obloquy and suspicion.

During the disputes with the sections about the re-election of the *two-thirds*, which he is supposed to have fomented, Pastoret, in consequence of his opinions, was returned a Deputy for Paris, in the Council of Five Hundred. Immediately after his election he joined the party of Pichegru, Camille Jourdan, Boissy d'Anglas, &c. His conduct now neither astonished his friends nor his enemies, although violent and imprudent to the last degree. He became a warm advocate for the return of the emigrants, and hinted more than once at the injustice of confiscating their estates. He thwarted every measure for general defence, and at length he and his friends not only outvoted the Republicans, but actually forced them to abandon the Assembly.

At length a new revolution took place, and his name was included in the famous decree of transportation, which passed Sept. 4th, 1797; but he found means to escape to Switzerland, and thus prevented a voyage to Cayenne.

Pastoret has been looked upon as an *Aristocrat* for some years past, and his reproaches against Condorcet for writing in a newspaper dedicated to liberty (*Le Journal de Paris*) was never forgotten by the patriots of 1789. It is but just, however to remark, that his conduct has always been open, his language candid, his sentiments liberal, and that he has been a constant advocate for *morals*, which he justly considers the best support of every government, more especially a Republican one.

ST. HURUGE

Was a Marquis, and a man of fortune ; but neither his title nor estates exempted him from the most cruel persecution under the old government of France. He was unlucky enough to have a handsome wife, who happened to be admired by the Baron de B. then Minister of Police : this was more than sufficient to ruin one of the provincial *nobleſſe*, dissipated and dissolute as he was, and, what was infinitely worse, *unprotected* at court ! The process was short : *Madame la Marquise* is said to have been seduced into the arms of the opulent, powerful, and amorous minister ; and her husband, under pretence of insanity, confined at Charenton !

On being liberated, he instantly repaired to England, and lived in London during 1777 and 1778, in great distress. He is still remembered at the Stratford Coffee-house, on account of his bad English, his amazingly good appetite, and his rooted but natural aversion to a government that had connived at such flagrant oppression.

Having found means to repair to Italy, he was well received at Naples by the French Ambassador, and the native nobility, notwithstanding his manners, dress, and address appertained less to the *nobleſſe* than the *Lazzaroni*.

On the Revolution, he returned to Paris, and glutted his revenge at the execution of the King, Queen, and most of the powerful nobles, whom he considered as his persecutors. He is even said to have
been

been active in the massacres of the prisoners, both in the capital and at Versailles: this procured him the appellation of *Le Petit Septembreur*.*

So early as 1789, he became one of the most energetic, if not the most eloquent orators, in the circles of the *Palais Royal*, but his clumsy figure and vulgar phraseology prevented him from being so successful as Camille Desmoulins and others; for instead of obtaining the applauses, he often exposed himself to the laughter of the crowd.

It was he who, in April 1791, a few days after the appearance of the apostolic bull, breathing an invitation to a civil war, set fire to the effigy of the Pope, adorned with the tiara and pontifical robe, in the garden of the Duke of Orleans. Previously to this, the youth of the capital had assembled, and carried the venerable figure in mock triumph through the city, after which it was suspended to the branch of a tree, in the gardens of the *Palais Royal*. St. Huruge was the person selected to make the *polemical* speech, before the ludicrous ceremony of committing the *Episcopus Episcoporum* to the flames. Sig. Luigi de Pio, formerly in the service of his Sicilian Majesty, is said to have suggested some hints to him

* The following is the character of this man, as given by M. de Guillermy, a noble like himself, but of a different party:

“ Le Marquis de S'Huruges, espèce de fou, connu dans sa province par les vexations qu'il a exercées contre ses vassaux, mais appelé aujourd'hui patriote ainsi que beaucoup de gens de même trempe, étoit alors l'instrument dont on se servoit pour ameuter le Palais-Royal.”

on this subject. Being a man of research, he was aware that when Luther burnt the *DECRETALS*, in the square of Wittemburg, in Saxony, he used the following remarkable words—"Quia tu conturbasti sacra domini ideo te conturbet ignis æternus;" and he recommended to the *ci-devant* Marquis, to confine his speech to a mere paraphrase of this sentence: but there, as usual, he failed, and instead of laughing at the expence of the Pope, as was expected, the populace turned all their ridicule against the orator.

The frenzy of St. Huruge was at its full height, on the appearance of the celebrated manifesto, issued by the Duke of Brunswick, and it must be acknowledged that on this occasion he was of the utmost service to his country by helping to give a strong impulsion to the public mind: for although his provincial eloquence had no effect on the minds of men of taste or education, it was admirably suited for the *Fauxbourg St. Antoine*, which was at this period the scene of his exertions.

He also took an active part in the Revolution of the 10th of August, at which period he constantly associated with Legendre, Santerre, and other leaders in that memorable event.

In the succeeding contentions, he *trimmed* according to the success or defeat of the different factions. During the *monarchy* of Robespierre, he was one of his creatures; on his condemnation, one of his revilers; on his execution, the bitterest of his enemies. All the English, imprisoned by the orders of the *dictator*, were well acquainted with him; for he visited them

them daily, and was accustomed to affright the timid and appal the bold, by his malignant predictions. After the *thermidorian* Revolution, they in their turn threatened him with vengeance. In short, he was soon after included in the list of emigrants!

It was the persecution experienced by the talkative, lascivious, insignificant *Marquis*, that converted him into a savage. Injustice generally begets hypocrisy, and not unfrequently cruelty; wrong is urged in retaliation for wrong. Thus, too, while Despotism is knotting her whips, arranging her chains, and sharpening her axes; Anarchy, the daughter of Licentiousness, but often also the mother of Liberty, hovers around, busied in preparing the scorpions of revenge, and whetting the sword of desolation!

CHABOT.

François Chabot was born at St. Deniez-Dol, in the Department of Avignon, in 1759; appointed a Deputy to the Convention in 1793; and executed at Paris on the 5th of April, 1794, in consequence of being implicated in a supposed conspiracy with Danton.

He was a friar in his youth; a hypocrite in his manhood; but, like the French in general, who die, perhaps, better than they live—he suffered with the firmness of a hero. In allusion to his dress, he was here termed, by a familiar alliteration, the *shabby Chabot*. One of the best judges in Europe speaks of him thus—“*Chabot ne démentit point la poltronnerie d'un prêtre, ni l'hypocrisie d'un capucin.*”

In justice to the *ci-devant* capuchin, it is, however, necessary to observe, that although he perished unlamented, he was considered *innocent* of the ridiculous charges exhibited against him *.

DUMONT OF GENOA,

A republican by birth, was the editor of a newspaper, termed "*Le Republicain*." It was published on the King's flight to Varennes, and considered, on account of the title, as a *phenomenon*.

At that period there were but eight republicans in France—I mean eight *native* citizens! Here follow the names of four of them: Petion, Mayor of Paris; Condorcet, so celebrated for his attainments in the sciences; Brissot, who died in an honourable poverty, a martyr to his principles; and † Du Chatelet, whom Louis XVI. in vain endeavoured to convert by all the blandishments of royal favour.

* In one of these he was accused of taking money from a foreign court, but, in a letter to the Convention, he victoriously refused the charge of corruption, by an assertion never disproved nor even denied, that he had apprized two members of the Committee of Public Safety of a transaction, in which he had participated from no other motive than to betray the corruptors. The secret negociation here alluded to implicated two Dutch bankers, and at length brought them also to the scaffold.

† Du Chatelet was a man of letters, and also a Lieutenant-Colonel in the army. On being wounded on the frontiers, he was told that one of the royal litters was at his service, but he rejected the offer with indignation, and insisted on being carried to the hospital with such of his fellow soldiers as had shared the same fate.

Robespierre,

Robespierre, on being entrusted with their secret design, asked, with a sneer—" *Ce que c'étoit qu'une république ?*"

LACLOS,

A man of extraordinary talents, great vices, and the author of *Les Liaisons dangereuses*, was the bosom friend and constant companion of M. d'Egalité, the *ci-devant* Duke of Orleans.

On the flight of the King, he repaired to the society of the Jacobins, and endeavoured to procure a petition from them, requesting the National Assembly to dethrone Louis, and declare Philip *constitutional* Monarch of France.

Being defeated in this attempt by Brissot, he tried to gain over the people, whom he had assembled for that purpose: and it was this circumstance that induced Bailly, then Mayor of Paris, to proclaim martial law, and La Fayette to give orders, for what has ever since been termed the massacre of the *Champ de Mars*.

The misfortunes of the house of Orleans may be traced to the crooked politics of this man: And such was his ascendancy over the mind of Philip Egalité, that he was entrusted with all, and is said to have projected many of his schemes of aggrandisement.

M. DEGRAVE,

A Lieutenant-Colonel in the army, was the Minister at War, when Roland presided over the home department. The most accomplished woman that
France

France has, perhaps, ever produced, describes him “as a little man in every sense of the word; for Nature having formed him gentle and timid, his prejudices tempting him to be lofty, and his heart inspiring him with the desire of being amiable, by an endeavour to reconcile all these, he became, in reality, nothing!”

I have heard a very different character of the ex-minister, from a good judge of mankind; and however much I may be inclined to *defer* to the discrimination of the amiable and unfortunate Madame Roland, there is some reason to suppose, that her opinion respecting this gentleman was somewhat tinged by party prejudice.

M. Degrave lives in the neighbourhood of Kensington; and consoles himself, amidst his misfortunes, by means of his books.—It is but justice to say, that the French bear calamity with a fortitude truly heroic; if they are apt to triumph, perhaps, a little too much in prosperity, they evince a noble constancy in adversity, that would have reflected honour on the stoics of ancient times!

ST. JUST.

The name of this man, once so terrible, is still odious in France; and notwithstanding his exertions may have been of use to his country during one or two critical periods, yet, like his friend Robespierre, he has been eminently disserviceable to the cause of liberty.

Louis Leon de St. Just, was still very young at the

the epoch of the Revolution ; but such was the opinion entertained of his learning and talents, that he was nominated an elector for the department of L'Aisne, of which he was also a native. In 1791, he distinguished himself by a work entitled “ *Esprit de la Revolution et de la Constitution de France*,” in which he made use of the grossest flattery towards a man then aspiring to the supreme power ; in one passage in particular he addresses him thus : “ You whom I only know, as I do God—by his miracles !”

Soon after this he was appointed a Deputy to the National Convention, for the department of *la Nièvre*, and, as may be easily imagined, instantly joined the party of the *Mountain*.

During the trial of Louis XVI. he made a very celebrated speech on the 13th of November 1792, in the course of which he inculcated the novel and extraordinary maxim, that it was criminal to be a king—“ *On ne peut point régner innocemment.*”

Notwithstanding this, St. Just had hitherto maintained the reputation of virtue, but his conduct towards *the Gironde*, and also during his mission in the South, rendered his name detestable. After this period, he was usually termed *l'ame damnée de Robespierre*.

He now became a member of the sanguinary Committee of Public Safety, and acted but too conspicuous a part during the reign of terror. His history is therefore the history of horrors.

Not content with the sacrifice of the Brissotins, it

was he who delivered in the reports that sent Anacharsis Cloots, Herault, Phillippaux, and all the *Dantonists to the scaffold.

While along with the Army of the North, he was attended by (*la guillotine ambulante*) a guillotine mounted on wheels, that followed the troops.

From the head-quarters of the army of the Rhine, he boasted in one of his dispatches, that two young men (Hoche and himself) had baffled the veteran General Wurmser, and the consummate Statesman Kaunitz, and preserved Strasbourg, and all Alsace, to the Republic. These, it must be allowed, were noble exploits, and it is the *means*, not the *end*, that the most fastidious enemy would condemn †.

Two emigrants have been at great pains to depict St. Just in the blackest colours. Mallet du Pan asserts, that he not only adopted, but actually acted upon the abominable principle, that audacity produces success, and every crime is justified by the event, provided it is prosperous. “Osez?” he was

* The great crime alleged against these last was *corruption*.

“*Ce sont les guinées de Pitt*,” exclaimed he, “*qui payent les orgies que ces nouveaux Catalinas font au Palais Royal.—C’est la qu’on fait les repas à cent écus par tête. Et non contents des biens dont la révolution les comble, il leur fait la revolte pour se procurer les oiseux de Phaise.*”

† The following is said to be part of the dispatch alluded to above:

“Le canon par devant, la guillotine par derrière, faire faire des prodiges aux nouveaux républicains!—Nous t’adorons *sainte guillotine*, c’est toi qui nous assure le règne de la liberté,” &c.

accustomed to exclaim, “ Osez! voila le secret de tous nos succès.” General Danican, not content with this outrage to morals, adds an outrage to humanity, for he pretends, that he gave orders to erect a manufactory at Meudon, in order to tan, during the night, the skins of the persons who suffered by the guillotine, for the purpose of supplying the army with boots and shoes! But with so many real crimes, it is needless to have recourse to fictitious ones.

More than one of his speeches in the Convention have subjected him to the imputation of being an advocate for an equal distribution of every species of property; and hence “le niveau de St. Just” was aptly compared to the bed of Procrustes. It is well known, that he often spoke openly in favour of an Agrarian law, or the equal distribution of land; and among his papers was found a note (written however by another hand), in which it was laid down as a maxim, “that a revolutionist should be ready to march with his feet steeped in blood and tears.”

When the *Thermidorean crisis* took place, St. Just entered the Assembly, and commenced an artful and insidious speech relative to the rumours about a division among the Members of the Government. It was then that Tallien, afraid of his popular talents, interrupted him, and poured forth a most bitter invective against his conduct, which prevented him from resuming the subject of his discourse, although he never quitted the *tribune*, not even when the decree of accusation was about to be launched against him. His powers of utterance appeared, however,

to be interdicted during this awful scene, and his countenance changed frequently as the danger approached. He was now even seen to shed tears, although on a former occasion he had exhibited great personal courage, by placing himself at the head of the army, and exposing himself to the heat of an action, during an engagement with the combined powers.

No sooner was the fatal decree pronounced than he was arrested, and carried from the hall of the Convention to the Scotch College, then converted into a prison, and not to the Luxembourg, along with Robespierre, Couthon, and the rest of his associates. He was however rescued in about six hours after, and conveyed in triumph to the *Commune*, where he was constituted "Chief of the Executive Committee," and measures were instantly taken to put all the authors of the new revolution to death.

His opponents, however, proved victorious, and he was seized a second time, and sent in a cart to the guillotine. While on the way thither, he seemed to have recovered a wonderful degree of *sang-froid*, and appeared but little affected by the maledictions of an immense crowd, who were taught to believe that all their miseries had originated in his crimes, and those of his accomplices.

The writer of this article can testify, that the sight of the axe excited no terrors in the face of this fierce and haughty *Triumvir*, for he submitted to his fate with a firmness which could only have been expected from an eminently virtuous man, prepared to

suffer in a good cause, and therefore armed with a conscience unacquainted with remorse.

Thus perished, by the hand of the executioner, the Deputy St. Just, on the 10th Thermidor (28th July) 1794, and in the 28th year of his age. The * square where he suffered had often been the scene of his own atrocities. It was there that his bloody proscriptions were literally executed, according to the tenor of his barbarous decrees; it was there that his enemies were immolated, in order to assuage his vengeance or gratify his ambition; and it was there also, by a just retribution, that a period was at last put to his own life and crimes!

M. DE LA ROCHEFOUCAULD LIANCOURT.

This nobleman, known formerly by the title of Duc de Liancourt, although he does not now claim it, even by courtesy, for he is a modest, as well as a good man, was one of the members of the States-General, and joined the majority of the clergy, and the minority of the nobles, when they met—for they never united with the *tiers-état* or Commons. He was also president of the club of 1789.

Notwithstanding this, the Duke was personally attached to the † King; and it was he who, at one

* *La Place de la Revolution.*

† It has been insinuated by M. Bertrand, in a work lately published in this country, that he became a patriot, in order to betray the patriots to the king, with whom he kept up a secret correspondence; but no sooner was M. de la R. Liancourt informed of this, than he disavowed the charge, in a letter published in a newspaper on the Continent.

o'clock of the morning of the 15th of July 1789, first informed Louis XVI. of the capture of the Bastile! His Majesty was absolutely ignorant of the event, when his ministers left him, at eleven o'clock on the preceding evening: they carefully concealed it (for it is ridiculous to suppose them unacquainted with so important a transaction) from the deluded Monarch. The Duke having learned the particulars, by means of two deputies who had been present, instantly flew from the Assembly to the palace; and, entering the privy-chamber, disclosed the fatal secret to the king. "*Qu'ai-je donc fait pour que le peuple s'élève contre moi ?*" dit-il avec une douleur profonde mais calme. "*Qu'il lise avec moi dans ma conscience, & il verra si jamais il a eu un meilleur ami, si depuis que j'ai le droit de m'occuper de son bonheur, mon cœur a jamais eu une autre pensée.*"

This would have done great honour to his Majesty's heart, were it not suspected that he had prepared an army, at this very moment, under M. de Broglio, on purpose to chastise the Parisians, and stifle the infant cry of Liberty.

On being brought back prisoner, after his flight to Varennes, he exclaimed, in the same strain, to the Duke—" *Ah ! si j'eus atteint le but de mon voyage, le peuple aurait vu si je meritois ses soupçons & son injustice !*"

M. de la Rochefoucauld Liancourt soon after left France, and was lucky enough to arrive safe in England. Preferring the country to the capital, he took

up his residence at Bury St. Edmund's, in Suffolk ; but he soon after repaired to America, where a publication of his has appeared, on the improvement of the Criminal Code of Pennsylvania.

In this tract, he points out the difference between mild and sanguinary laws, by a reference to the actual practice of Pennsylvania, in consequence of which the number of offenders has been lessened full one half ! No whips, or chains are to be seen there. Great crimes are punished with a salutary severity ; petty *political* misdemeanors are not expiated by *seclusion* from society ; hard labour becomes the just portion of the malefactor or the vagabond, and the *discipline of the house of correction* is administered to these alone.

When Louis XVI. like our Charles I. was doomed to undergo a public trial, the Duke addressed a letter to Barrere, then President of the Assembly, dated November 19th, in which he offered to become his defender, at the bar of the National Tribunal. On the 20th of December 1792, he also wrote a letter to M. Maleherbes, who had been chosen by Louis as his advocate, in which he endeavoured to depict his character as that of an amiable and philanthropic sovereign ; exclaiming at the same time—“ *Ah ! si la sacrifice de ma vie est utile au bonheur de la France, j'y suis préparé !*”

The truth is, that the haughty Henrietta Maria, consort of Charles I, and the unfortunate Maria Antoinette, the partner, not only of the bed, but the

occupier

occupier of the throne of Louis XVI, occasioned the catastrophe of both.

Louis was not unacquainted with his own foibles ; for the Duc de Liancourt has seen a MS. in his Majesty's hand-writing, in which he freely depicted his own character, and particularised his good qualities, not omitting even his faults ; in which he recounted the obstacles he had met with, and endeavoured to surmount, in his own disposition ; the views with which he ascended the throne ; the plans he had resisted ; those he was enabled to execute, and those he did not dare to undertake.

To such a disposition, had he either added fortitude, or been lucky enough to have been surrounded by a prudent consort and virtuous counsellors, he might have perhaps rivalled the only two good Princes of his family, Henry IV. and Louis XII.

M. de la Rochefoucauld Liancourt, after a short residence in America, has returned to Europe, and now resides at Hamburgh.

BOISSY D'ANGLAS.

The Representative Boissy d'Anglas, was one of the order of the *ci-devant* noblesse, and voted uniformly with that patriotic minority of the nobles which acted in union and concert with the *tiers-état*. His reputation began to rise considerably, about the time when the first National Assembly was verging to its close, in consequence of his eloquent and spirited observations on Calonne's work—"On the present and future State of France,"—and his mas-

terly Reply to a Publication of the celebrated Raynal.

Under the government of Robespierre and Danton, Boissy made no very prominent figure, being thrown, as it were, into the back-ground of the picture. Ever since the 9th of Thermidor, however, he has had occasion to act grand and important parts. His political and æconomical Reports, presented at intervals to the Convention, in the name of the Committee of Public Safety, display unusual vigour and boldness of conception, combined with a superior elegance of manner; while his sentiments on the expediency or inexpediency of restoring the Belgic Provinces to the House of Austria, unfold the deepest political views.

He is generally reputed to be the prime mover and author of the existing Constitution, insomuch that the Jacobins, who are still attached to that of 1793, do not scruple to style the former—*The Patrician Constitution of Boissy d'Anglas* *.

For some time, a report was very current at Paris, that Boissy, in the Committee of Legislation, had expressed an opinion favourable to the appointment of a *perpetual President of the Executive Directory*. This circumstance rendered him for a time unpopular; drew on him the suspicion of being a secret † Royalist, and

* He was the Reporter of the Committee of Eleven, appointed to examine and decide on its merits!

† The following very eloquent speech, pronounced in the Council of Ancients, on the 13th Fructidor (August 31,) 1796, procured

and even occasioned his being denounced in a General Committee.

He

procured him a multitude of enemies, as he was particularly desirous to exclude the Jacobins from the benefit of a general amnesty, which however they obtained, in opposition to his opinion :

“ It was a memorable circumstance, a grand period of history, when a man who had obtained great influence over his fellow-citizens, a man powerful by his eloquence, his character, and his victories ; when Cæsar, in a word, attempted to persuade the Roman Senate to exercise clemency towards the accomplices of Cataline, the virtuous and inflexible Cato, appealing to the sacred name of liberty, which was menaced ; to the dearest interests of his country, which were endangered ; and to the venerable rights of justice, which were forgotten ; caused their punishment to be decreed and executed.

“ I will venture to repeat, that this is neither the time nor the place for exercising that grand act of indulgence which is proposed to you.

“ Wherefore do I say so ? It was only yesterday that they were conspiring against you ; it was but yesterday that odious and execrable colours were displayed as the signal for your assassination ; it was but yesterday that, had it not been for the circumspection and activity of Government, there would have been an end of the state, of you, and of liberty ; and you will proclaim a generous pardon in favour of those who formed the strength and the hope of your enemies ; you will invite them to renew their plots, by holding forth impunity as the most unfavourable issue of their attempts !

“ No, no, you will not : at least when the period of discussion arrives, I shall find little difficulty in combating the arguments of the advocates of the measure.

“ What is it that in effect they propose ? To consign to oblivion all revolutionary crimes. Alas ! but in order to do this

He recovered his character however, during what was termed the *Vendémarian Conspiracy*, when the
 sections

you must heal all the wounds that have been inflicted ; you must repair the effects of every calamity, and find consolation for every misfortune ; you must change the hearts of the wicked, and when you pardon them in the name of the people, you must teach them to pardon themselves ; the assassin, murderer, the robber, the denouncer, the plunderer, must at your command change their manners and their principles, and become good citizens.

But this is a task beyond your power ; and the oblivion which you proclaim will only be partial, or rather it never will exist ; no, it never will exist. Do you imagine that in the South, for example, in those beautiful but unfortunate countries which have been so much distracted by factions, which have been ensanguined by so many assassinations, which have been so often laid waste with pillage ; in the countries from whence the Deputies come influenced by sentiments of philanthropy which do them the greater honour, inasmuch as they personally have many injuries to pardon ; do you imagine, I say, that the relations of the unfortunate victims that were sacrificed at Bidouin, at Toulon, at Oranges, and at Fort Jean, can ever forget that you denied them the justice that was promised them ? Do you suppose that they can, without terror, without horror, without emotions of which you must dread the impulse, see again at their houses, in their towns and in their fields, the ferocious butchers of their fathers, the frightful accomplices of their tyrants ?

“ Ah! you speak of reaction, and do you not reflect on all those reactions which will follow if by one word, if by one decree you ordain a Citizen to look upon, to behold in cold blood, and without hope of any satisfaction, him who has ravished his wife, or who has consigned her to the most horrible captivity.

“ Citizens Representatives, the amnesty which is proposed to you will be like an application of boiling vinegar to all these
 wounds ;

sections of Paris were in open rebellion against the legislature, and Ferrand, a Deputy, lost his life, in consequence of the fury of the mob.

On

wounds; it will arm citizen against citizen; it will kindle the flame of civil war in those countries where it will most generally operate.

“ An amnesty is the effect of circumstances, and not the result of the will of a legislature; it ought rather to be the consequence of an individual will, so to speak, than of a general will. It will take place of itself, for all have need of forgiveness; and time, which consolidates every thing, will also heal up wounds; but you will retard its arrival by attempting to render it premature. Make the people happy by your institutions and by your laws, and you will produce an amnesty. Teach them to forget, under the blessings of a good government, all the evils of tyranny, and you will compel those who suffered, to remember their misfortunes no more.

“ An amnesty in legislation is an act of weakness which can only give audacity to crimes, importance to the efforts of faction, and prevalence to contempt of the laws. Good men will profit nothing from it, it will only be of advantage to the profligate.

Do you think that if the bloody faction of anarchy, or of Royalism, were to rise into power by the aid of this same amnesty, so easily granted, that they would extend its operations to you? No, certainly, their leaders would be the first to call it unconstitutional.

“ An amnesty was proclaimed at the dissolution of the first Constituent Assembly: has it been respected? Has it saved a single individual from the execrable sword of Fouquier Tinville? No, alas! Recollect the fate of the members of the Parliament of Toulouse, who returning to France upon the faith of this amnesty, fell victims in a mass to their confidence in the decrees of the Representatives of the People.

On this occasion Boissy assumed the chair as President, and acted not only with great heroism, but also with

“ Ah! were I permitted to untold to you for a moment the bloody archives of Robespierre’s Committee, I could teach you the use which tyrants make of amnesties. Jos. Lebon consulted the Committee to know how he was to treat the amnesty of 1791. *The amnesty of the Constituent Assembly, replied these Deceivers, was a crime in those who proclaimed it, and ought to protect no crime from the vengeance of the law.* Joseph Lebon obeyed his instructions, and consigned all his victims to death.

“ But why should I have recourse to all these arguments? May I not appeal to your own experience? Enough of amnesties have been proclaimed to enable you to calculate their effects: turn over the pages of our history, and tell me if the impunity of criminals has not stained them with blood. An amnesty is proclaimed for the cut-throats of the Glaciere, and a few months are scarcely elapsed when the crimes of the 2d of September are reprobated as a disgrace to the human species. They pass unpunished, and the conspiracy of the 10th of March threatens the existence of the national representation. It passes unpunished in its turn—What do I say? It is crowned by the establishment of the Revolutionary Tribunal. On the 31st of March it is executed; forty Representatives of the people are led in succession to the scaffold; all France is besmeared with blood and bedewed with tears; the country is covered with assassins and butchers, with burying-grounds and prisons; the villages are burnt, citizens are slaughtered in a mass, and when the day of justice arrives, the punishment of the culprits, modified by clemency, produces the revolt of the 12th Germinal, and the impunity with which it passes produces that of the 1st Prairial. At your feet, before your eyes, a Representative of the People is murdered; you are threatened with a similar fate, and his head is presented to you as the signal for your sacrifice.

“ Ah! I conjure you in the name of humanity itself, in the
name

with uncommon presence of mind. A portrait of him was painted, descriptive of this critical moment, in which with one hand he averts the pikes of the insurgents from his breast, while he waved the other, in order to tranquillize the turbulent Assembly.

In 1794, Boissy published a work, greatly admired for its beauty and energy, under the modest title of—
“Certain Ideas on the Arts.”

The following passage may serve, in some degree, to throw light on the philosophical system planned and adopted in his mind—“We should be enlightened with regard to the extent of our duties, our power, our means: let us calculate the quantum of our strength and riches, and then consider the end which we ought to have in view. Let us still keep in mind, that it is not a new people we are called upon to organize—that it is not a few tribes dispersed here and there over uncultivated regions, without opulence, industry, luxury, great cities, and grand establishments—but that it is an old nation, whose regeneration we are ambitious to produce. It is a mass of active and enlightened individuals, to whom industry has become a want, luxury a natural passion, and knowledge a necessity. It is a people

name of justice, in the name of the public interest, not to return men to society who would again tear it asunder; who, not content with impunity, are still thirsting for new assassinations, devastation, and plunder. Do not expose the harmless and peaceable man, who once was the victim of tyranny, which is now no more, to see his oppressors among his fellow-citizens—What do I say? Among his rulers, and perhaps among his Representatives, and to become himself ferocious and murderous.”

prompted by their sublime and ardent genius, to maintain the first rank among polished societies; a people living in the most fertile territory in Europe, possessing extensive colonies and commercial establishments in Asia, Africa, and America——

“ It is our duty, therefore, to organize for such a people, not the means of *poverty*, but of plenty—not to instruct them in the things they ought *to part with*, but to shew them *how*, and *in what manner*, they are TO ENJOY.”

Boissy d'Anglas, now in the 39th year of his age, has, on all occasions, expressed himself frankly and boldly in behalf of a renovation of morals. He in particular denounced the numerous gaming-houses, that had lately obtruded in every corner of Paris, and called down the vengeance of the legislature on those shameful conspiracies against the peace and happiness of the social world.

Notwithstanding these services, his conduct had long been *suspected* by the zealots of republicanism, and he has of late given them but too fair an opportunity to gratify their vengeance.

Soon after the establishment of that constitution, in the creation of which he had so eminent a share, Boissy seemed anxious on many occasions to destroy the work of his own hands. His opposition to the Directory has been uniform. He not only blamed the very culpable measure of executing men by means of martial law, but seemed anxious to deprive the government of its energy, at the very moment the interests of the empire were at stake.

But

But it was his junction with the party of Barthélemy, Camille Jourdan, &c. that gave the greatest offence, and was attended with the most disastrous consequences, for he was considered as one of the ringleaders in the real or pretended "conspiracy to restore Royalty," and ordered to be transported to Cayenne.

GENERAL LEFEBVRE,

Is reproached by his enemies, with the *crime* of having been born in a cottage. God knows that this must have been involuntary, at least, on his part! But, in imitation of Marius, when the Roman nobility boasted of the statues of their ancestors, he too may open his bosom, and exhibit his honest scars, by way of a reply.

Destined for the army, Lefebvre rose to a *halbert*; and would have stopped for ever at this point in the muster-roll, under the ancient order of things; without patronage, friends, family, or title; destitute of every thing but talents to back his pretensions, he would have been worn out in the service; and pined away the latter part of a miserable existence (had death, famine, and fatigue, spared him so long) in either a jail or an hospital.

In consequence of a Revolution, wonderful in all its parts, the *quondam* drill-serjeant has distinguished himself considerably, more especially on the passage of the Rhine. The *man*, who made himself a general, was opposed to a *prince*, who was born one!

His

His Highness* had learned to dance; and, unfortunately for him, is said to have been actually practising a *pas de deux*, at a ball, the very moment Lefebvre was beating up his quarters!

The Aulic council of war would have instantly broken an untitled subaltern, and chained him, perhaps, like poor Trenck, in a dungeon, ten feet by six; but exalted rank, and high blood, must be dealt differently with: his *serenity*, therefore, had a jocular kind of punishment assigned him; for being known to be attached to the *lyrrhick* measure of the ancients, he has been ordered, if we are to credit the foreign journals, to *dance* all the way to Vienna!

GREGOIRE,

The Constitutional Bishop of Blois, is celebrated for his various and profound literature, no less than for the urbanity of his manners: he is, in short, allowed to be one of the most accomplished men who sit in the circle of French legislators.

He has been traced to a village near Nanci, in Lorraine, of which he was the *curé*; and where, in spite of the obscurity of his station, the fame of his learning and probity had already procured him uncommon respect and celebrity.

At the time of the convocation of the *Etats Généraux*, in 1789, Gregoire was destined to remain no longer in retirement:—his talents, and the public favour, obtained for him a place in that august and

* The young Prince de W. a General in the Imperial army.

honourable assembly. Since his first appearance on the stage of public life, he has always displayed the greatest moderation, and uniformity of character—ever deputed himself as an ornament of his order—and ever been considered as an honour to his country. His rare talents, incorruptible integrity, disinterested patriotism, and sound piety, have constantly shone in the full blaze of meridian glory.

He concurred with those virtuous clergymen in the sitting of the States General, who united themselves with the *Tiers Etat*, in opposition to the design of allotting separate chambers for the two superior orders.

In the first National Assembly, he appeared as a champion for the rights of the people, against the excessive authority exercised by the church; and is thought to have contributed more than any other man to the reformation of clerical abuses, which afterwards took place:—in the article relating to the abolition of tythes, however, he constantly voted with the minority—considering the institution to be of Divine original!

His philanthropy was particularly distinguished by many fervid and eloquent speeches and motions in favour of the emancipation of the African slaves; and he took an active part in all the debates of the Legislative Body on that subject.

His talents also appeared to advantage, on another extraordinary occasion. The reform introduced into the civil constitution of the French church, being disrelished by many of the clergy, these *refractories* began

began to solicit the church of Rome to dispatch a *monitory*, prohibiting all attempts on their order—then it was that M. Gregoire published his celebrated *brochure*, entitled, “*A Preservative against Schism.*” Whatever success this work met with among his own countrymen, its reception was not so favourable in some of the states of Italy, particularly at Naples, where an everlasting clash of interests subsists between the civil and priestly authorities; and at Rome, where the slightest appearance of innovation, in matters pertaining to ecclesiastical discipline, is looked upon as Atheism.

The translation of his work, gave rise to the publication of another curious and pleasant tract, entitled, “*A Question, Whether a Jansenist be not also a Jacobin?*”

In the first sitting of the National Convention, September 21st, 1792, Gregoire concurred in the vote (on the motion of Collot d’Herbois) for the abolition of Royalty in France. At a subsequent meeting, November 6th, 1793, when Gobet, Constitutional Bishop of Paris, attended by his Vicar General, renounced his clerical function at the Bar of the Convention, (under the notion of preferring the worship of Reason alone) Gregoire, in a declaration full of zeal, asserted his Christianity, and scrupulous adherence to the faith of his forefathers.

The Representatives sent on mission to the armies and departments of France, have, as it is well known, been often guilty of great outrages, and have incurred, in consequence, no small portion of popular odium.

odium. Gregoire, however, in every department which he has visited, has conducted himself in such a manner, as to carry back with him the gratulations of his fellow-citizens.

The inhabitants of Savoy, and of all the districts conquered from the King of Sardinia, were remarkably averse to an union with the French Republic: the amicable disposition they now show towards France, has been chiefly excited by the great virtues of this popular Representative.

The highest eulogy that can be pronounced on his character, is the singular observation, that since the commencement of the Revolution, he has claimed the admiration, and won the confidence, of all the different factions that have, by turns, prevailed in the French Government. Under the bloody regimen of Robespierre, a system of proscription had been commenced against all men of letters, and professed religionists.—Such, however, was the veneration with which M. Gregoire was even then regarded, although eminent in both these characters, that no one was found hardy enough to attack him. A stranger to personalities, and divested of private passions and ambition, his faculties were wholly absorbed by his concern for the public welfare.

As a member of the Committee of Public Instruction, M. Gregoire has laboured more abundantly than all his associates, in fostering the growth of the arts and sciences, and in encouraging their professors. He has already addressed, in the name of the Committee, some valuable reports to the National

tional Convention, which, if collected and printed, with due regard to systematical arrangement, would furnish the public with an excellent miscellaneous composition, or *mélange*.

The boldest step taken by him, since his commencing a public functionary, was his addressing an *encyclie* (circular letter) last winter to the Bishops of France, requiring their aid in the convocation of a National Council, agreeably to the decrees of the Council of Trent, the Synod of Borromeo, and the liberties and independence of the Gallican Church. It was taken for granted at that time, that M. Gregoire would have incurred a prosecution, on this account, from the existing Government!—He was allowed, however, to pass with impunity.

The following extract, selected from his Report on the Bounties to be conferred by the Nation on Men of Genius, may enable the reader to acquire some insight into the character of this celebrated priest——

“ A great man is the public property. A prejudice vanquished, or a truth discovered, are often of greater national utility, than the acquisition of a town. A man of genius is the foremost of his century ; outstrips it, and is, as it were, from this very circumstance, expatriated.—As virtue, united with beauty, is liable to peculiar temptations ; so a genius, possessing the gifts of fortune, is particularly exposed to the anathemas of the fickle goddesses.”

And, in another pamphlet, we find the following passage——

“ Books consecrated to the *noblesse*, treatises of genealogy, works calculated to flatter despotism, or pamper greatness, enshrined in Morocco-leather, have always had a place in our most superb libraries; while the immortal works of Milton, Althusius, and Hubert Languet, have lain neglected in an ignoble corner, under the humble covering of parchment.

“ Works which laid open the crimes of princes and ministers of state, which demonstrated the just rights of the people, were, if I may be allowed the expression, the *Sans Culottes* of our libraries.”

In a pastoral letter addressed to his clergy, a little posterior to the restoration of religious worship, after deploring the former errors of religious factions, he adds—“ You, I trust, have not yet forsaken the faith which you once professed; yet, can I wonder, if even some amongst you, through the contagion of example, have been perverted?—Alas! our religion, like our native country, has also its EMIGRANTS!”

The character of Gregoire may be best collected from a perusal of his writings at large. He is about forty-eight years of age; in his temper extremely good-natured, and no less lively in conversation.

BUZOT.

Fran. Nic. Leon Buzot, was born at Evreux, March 1, 1760, and became a Deputy, first to the Constitutional Assembly for the department of Eure, and afterwards to the Convention, for that of the Gironde. While yet a boy, he distinguished himself by the precociousness of his judgment, and the purity

city and integrity of his character were admirably adapted to set off his talents to the best advantage: in short, according to Madame Roland, he united “the morals of a Socrates, with the gentleness of a Scipio.”

Both in the Constituent Assembly and the Convention, he was considered as a first-rate speaker; and his report on the necessity of a departmental guard, has always been spoken of as a master-piece. He was a man of letters also, as well as an orator—his addresses to his constituents abound with bold truths, and manly arguments.

The charges adduced against him by his enemies, are so many panegyrics. He was accused of *royalism*, because he asserted that morals were necessary in a Republic, and ought to be cherished and encouraged there; and of *calumniating* Paris, because he abhorred the massacres of September, and ascribed them solely to a handful of cut-throats!

He was one of the Girondists; and his attachment to a Federative Republic, such as those of Greece, America, and Switzerland, instead of a Republic, *one and indivisible*, cost him his life. How much must the idea of royalty have been dreaded in France, when his enemies could undermine his reputation, and ruin his character, by the opprobrious nick-name of *Le Roi Buzot*! But this was at a period when naughty children were whipped by their parents for being *les petits Aristocrates*!

The *Jacobins* and *Girondists* were incensed to a degree of fury against each other, during the whole
winter

winter of 1792. On the 30th of April, 1793, Buzot attacked the former in a speech replete with eloquence, and called for their immediate destruction. On this occasion he employed the severest and most pointed invectives, and represented their club as the haunt of monsters.

On the mention of one expression, (*l'abominable répare*) characterising their place of meeting, all the Jacobin members arose, and vented their rage and fury against him, in consequence of which the Assembly became a scene of confusion. From this moment the rancour of both parties increased, and in a few weeks afterwards, the most energetic having proved triumphant, Buzot was proscribed.

Having escaped into the Department of the Gironde, he wandered about for some time, and led the life of a wretched fugitive, exposed to hunger and thirst, and often destitute of a place where he could shelter his head from the fury of the elements. In this miserable condition he is supposed to have died of want, for his body was found by the side of his friend Petion, who had participated in all his distresses.

P. M. LEBRUN,

Originally known by the name of Pierre-Marie Tondou, was addicted in his early youth to astronomy, and remained at the Royal Observatory, under Cassini, until 1788. He soon after became the Editor of a newspaper, celebrated for its early communication of foreign occurrences, and the diplomatic talents of its conductor.

Shortly

Shortly after the Revolution he was admitted by the Brissotins into the Administration, and became Minister for Foreign Affairs. In this situation he displayed all the resources of a subtle and intelligent mind, and had his agents in every court of Europe; in short, he was deemed the most able man, in point of real business, in the whole Council.

On the triumph of the Jacobins, he was obliged to conceal himself; and has been often known to slip out towards the evening from his lurking-place, disguised under a black wig, and a shabby *furtout*, in order to procure sustenance. As he was unprovided with a *civic-card*, he was not entitled to purchase bread. This circumstance also subjected him to the interrogatories of every centinel, and to imprisonment in every guard-house he happened to pass by. After living some time in constant danger, he was at length seized, confined, and tried.

He was born at Noyon, and decapitated at Paris in the 48th year of his age, on the 8th Nivose, (28th of December), 1792.

His brother, Achilles Tondy, who, like himself, had been bred an Astronomer, accompanied Choiseul Gouffier in his embassy to Constantinople, and died there in 1787.

CLAVIERRE.

Etienne Clavierre, was a native of Geneva, whence he was driven into exile, on the prevalence of the party he had opposed.

While yet a private man, he attained great celebrity

brity by his knowledge of the resources and revenues of France; and was constantly consulted by Mirabeau, who was indebted to him for much of his reputation.

Being a leading member of a Jacobin Club, he was introduced to Louis XVI. and became Minister of Finance. On the overthrow of the Girondists he was arrested, and prevented his public execution by a voluntary death.

He is said to have been incited to this act, by the wish to preserve his property from confiscation, for the use of his family. His intentions however were frustrated, for in opposition to every idea of justice, the circumstance of self-murder was deemed a conclusive proof of guilt, and even tantamount to legal conviction. To sum up the catastrophe, his wife had recourse to poison, and his children, thus bereft of father, mother, and fortune, were left destitute.

Clavierre is said by some to have been the *author of the *assignats*, an idea which not only changed the face of France for a time, but seemed at one period likely to alter the destinies of all Europe. When Brissot published his work relative to America, he was assisted in the commercial part by him. Madame Roland allows Clavierre to have possessed talents, but she thought he was "rather too much of a banker."

AUBERT DU BAYET,

Was a *Revolutionist*, in every sense of the word; for after assisting in the troubles of his native coun-

* Others attribute this to Pétion.

try, he has been both officially and personally zealous to light up a new flame on the shores of the Archipelago.

It was of the utmost importance for France to induce the *Sublime Porte* to declare against Russia : the very probability of this event was, indeed, for a time, eminently serviceable to the Republic, as it confined the operations of the late Empress to empty threats and ineffectual bravadoes.

Aubert du Bayet, lately a member of the Administration, was accordingly employed by the Directory, in a diplomatic character, on a mission to Constantinople, for the express purpose of effecting a breach between the Greek Cross and the Turkish Crescent. This Ambassador was furnished with the crown-jewels, to bribe the Divan ; and with engineers and tacticians, to instruct and direct its armies.

The annihilation of Poland has not only destroyed the balance of power, but actually endangered the political existence of the Turks as an European nation. In addition to this, it is the interest of France, and perhaps of all the maritime states, that there should be a counterpoise in that quarter to the three great partitioning powers.

Is Poland, then, to be entirely blotted out from the map of free nations, and lose even its name?—Or shall we behold that Republic which, under John Sobieski, sustained Europe during the irruption of a horde of fanatic Musselmén, arising, phoenix-like, from its ashes, more vigorous than before ?

These were the questions which Aubert du Bayet

was agitating by means of his intrigues in the Turkish cabinet, when his wife died suddenly of the plague. He himself was carried off soon after, by the same fatal disorder, and thus did not live to witness the invasion of Egypt, or to experience a rigorous confinement in the prison of the Seven Towers, appropriated, time immemorial, for the reception of such Ministers as happen to be in the capital on a declaration of war.

MIRABEAU—MIRANDA—WILKES.

These three very celebrated men, of whom two are now dead, and one in exile, met one day, by invitation, at the house of a respectable gentleman in Chesterfield-street, May-fair.

Mr. H. after dinner expected great entertainment from his guests ; but, unfortunately for him, the orator and the general had a violent dispute relative to some trifling subject, which rendered the early part of the evening uncomfortable. To complete the mortification, they both soon after attacked John Wilkes on the barbarity and inhumanity of the English nation ; as an instance of which, they mentioned *the execution of several young men. for trifling offences, in the course of that very morning.**

The hoary patriot retorted the charge ; and, turning towards Mirabeau—it was several years before the Revolution—sarcastically asked him—“ What

* I do not recollect the particular year ; but I know that the executions at that time took place at Tyburn, and think that the number put to death, on the morning alluded to, was nineteen !!!

he thought of the very *humane* mode of breaking on the wheel, as practised at the *Grève* in Paris, when the *noblesse* were accustomed to bespeak seats at the balcony windows, and sip their coffee with the same glee, as if they had been at a comedy?"

THOMAS LINDET,

Was the son of a respectable Advocate settled at Evreux, in Normandy. He entered early into the Revolution, and by means of his own interest, and that of his family, profited by the event.

Having been bred to the church, he soon aspired to its honours, and at the time when so many refractory dignitaries refused to take the civic oath, he presented himself as a candidate for a mitre, and attained the rank of a Constitutional Bishop.

ROBERT LINDET.

The second edition of the Jacobins, and the first edition of the Emigrants, were proverbially violent. Robert Lindet, the brother of the Bishop, appertained to the former class, and was one of the most clamorous members in the Convention for the arrest of the thirty-two *Girondist* Deputies.

He had been originally bred to the law, in the practice of which he obtained some reputation, and was returned a member for his native Department, that of Eure.

In the Committee of Public Safety he displayed great energy of character; and it must be acknowledged, notwithstanding the odium still attached to their

their name, that this party saved France, and established the foundations of the Republic. *Les Philosophes*, as the Brissotins were termed, entertained a laudable abhorrence of blood-shed, rapine, and injustice—eloquent, metaphysical, dilatory, timid, they were not calculated to

“ Ride in the whirlwind, and direct the storm !”

They were admirably fitted, however, both to precede and succeed the tempest.

By some of the southern departments, whither he was sent on mission, Robert Lindet has been accused of sanguinary proceedings ; but, by others, his innocence has been asserted, even after the 10th *Thermidor*, when the colleagues of Robespierre were arrested. His integrity was never assailed.

It ought to be mentioned to his credit, that during the latter part of the reign of terror, he lived in a state of almost total inactivity ; for although his name was frequently used, yet he himself was not entrusted with the schemes of *the secret executive*, that directed all the springs of government. Accordingly, on the *Thermidorian Revolution*, he entered into all the views of the victorious party, and continued, during three months, in the Committee of Public Safety.

It would appear, however, that he changed his opinions, when *Boissy d’Anglas, and some others,

* This member was at that time called *D’Anglas L’Affameur*, in consequence of some reports, tending in the opinions of the patriots, to furnish the capital, as a prelude to the restoration of Monarchy.

wished to extirpate all the Jacobins, for he then de-claimed aloud against the impolicy and injustice of the new system, and even attacked the recent revolution with great bitterness, always mentioning it as *l'exécrable journée de 9 Thermidor*.

On the new arrangement of the legislature, Robert Lindet did not happen to be one of the *two-thirds*; in other words, he was not re-elected. Soon after this, he appears to have been implicated in the conspiracy of Babœuf and Drouet, but the Directory did not appear anxious to punish him.

M. DEMORANDE,

Was formerly Editor of the *Courier de Londres*. He came over to this country, and published a book that made great noise at the time, called *Le Gazetier Cuirassé*;* containing a variety of scandalous anecdotes of the mistresses of that very contemptible and debauched monarch, Louis XV.

The French court being determined on revenge, sent over an *exempt*, with orders to spare neither

* *Le Gazetier Cuirassé: ou Anecdotes scandaleuses de la cour de France. Imprimé à cent lieues de la Bastille, à l'enseigne de la liberté. MDCLXXII.* From this, now a scarce tract, I shall here give a quotation, in which the author expresses a wish, that has since been in part verified.....“ Il serait bien à souhaiter en France qu'il eût quelques millions de moines en uniforme de grenadiers, & quelques centaines d'ablés à leur tête; ils seroient plus utiles à l'état avec un mousquet, ou un boyau à la main, qu'avec le goupillon dont ils arrosent les imbecilles.” Note to p. 15.

His prophecy that Madame du Barré would perish by the hands of the executioner, has proved but too true.

trouble nor expence to secure the *libeller*, and convey him to the Bastille. On his arrival in England, in the character of an unfortunate gentleman who had fled from persecution, he found means to get introduced to M. Demorande, and, affecting to compassionate his situation, as a person exposed to the malice and intrigues of the French ministry, proffered him the loan of a sum of money. This was instantly accepted by M. D. with many expressions of gratitude; but he completely outwitted his countryman, although one of the most skilful officers belonging to the Police of Paris; for he instantly applied to Sir J. Fielding, and so frightened this satellite of Madame du Barré, that he was happy to escape *re infecta*.

Soon after the commencement of the American war, M. D. received a pension from Lord North of about 300l. a year, in consequence of which he resigned the editorship of the French newspaper, and retired to Stanmore, in Middlesex; where he took a small house in the cottage style, and cultivated a beautiful garden, which was furnished with a fine collection of foreign roots.

When the French Revolution took place, he returned after a long absence to Paris, and published a weekly gazette, called *l'Argus Patriote*. He entertained a violent dislike to Brissot, whom he hated both personally and politically, and endeavoured to injure him in the esteem of his countrymen, but without effect. This circumstance, perhaps, and this

alone, saved his life under the *monarchy* of Robespierre.

He now repairs daily to the *Palais Royal* on crutches; and, being a man of some eloquence, entertains those around him with his opinion of the events of the time, and the great men of the day.

He formerly married an English woman.

MONGE,

Originally a Stone-cutter at Mezieres, in Champagne, became a mathematician of some celebrity, by the liberality of the Abbé Roussuet, who rescued him from manual labour, and actually superintended his education. He was appointed Minister of the Marine, on the recommendation of Condorcet.*

He is a virtuous, but dull, plodding man; and was totally incapacitated, both by nature and education, to act the important part assigned him by friendship, on one hand, and the want of able and *patriotic* com-

* “ *On ne savoit qui mettre à la marine : Condorcet parla de Monge, parce qu’il l’avoit vu résoudre des problèmes de géométrie à l’Académie des Sciences, & Monge fut élu. C’est un espèce d’original qui feroit bien des singeries à la manière des ours que j’ai vus jouer dans les fosses de la ville de Berne, &c.*”... Appel de Mad. Roland.

“ They were at a loss for some body to occupy the marine department : Condorcet on this mentioned Monge, merely because he had seen him resolve geometrical problems at the Academy of Sciences, and Monge was accordingly appointed. He is a sort of original, and performs antic tricks, in the manner of the bears which I have seen in the ditch that surrounds the city of Berne, &c.”

petitors,

petitors, on the other—for all those appertaining to the ancient *marine-royal*, from the minister of the department down to the *enseigne*, which answers to our midshipman, were, at this period, notoriously *counter-revolutionary*.

Monge had solved several difficult problems, while a boy, before the Academy of Sciences; a circumstance that had captivated the regard of the Secretary. As the inspector of a seminary for ship-building, this might have been a sufficient qualification; but when, instead of contending with the passive signs of triangles and parallelograms, the mathematician was to enter upon active life, and regulate men and fleets, he was quite bewildered. The result was, accordingly, what might have been expected—the French marine became almost annihilated, during the administration of a minister, an adept indeed in geometry, but an *ignoramus* in respect to mankind.

Monge soon retired, or rather was *driven*, from a situation which he could not fill either with credit to himself, or honour to his country; and, following the natural bent of his inclinations, took refuge once more in the bosom of the sciences.

He was soon after nominated a Professor in a new national establishment, called (*l'Ecole Polytechnique*) the Polytechnical School; and has acquired considerable reputation by a skilful application of Geometry, and even of Algebra, to the perfection of taste.*

* *Il sembla au premier abord que rien n'est si opposé que les jugemens du goût, & les opérations de l'algebra, & l'on aura de la peine à concevoir, &c.*

In a short time after this, he published one of his lectures—" *Sur la forme le plus convenable pour une Salle d'Assemblée.*" He proposes that the hall should be constructed after the manner of an amphitheatre, but of an elliptical figure, as it is demonstrated by experience that the speaker is heard best in front. Thus beauty and utility are attempted to be reconciled together. The most proper form for the roof, is said to be the moiety of an ellipsoïde—(*La place de la salle étant elliptique on ne pourrait donner à la voûte une forme plus convenable que celle de la moitié d'une ellipsoïde.*) The vault is to be supported by an elliptical arch; that thus, "by confining the volume of air, the orator's voice may acquire a greater force."

No sooner had Buonaparte by his brilliant achievements acquired a decided preponderance in the affairs of Italy, than the Directory dispatched three commissioners thither. These consisted of Monge, Dannon, and Florent, who repaired to Rome, and began their career, by repressing the disorders of the troops. In consequence of their representations, General St. Cyr was dismissed on account of pecculation, and replaced by General Mc. Donald, a native of Scotland. The natives were also treated with more lenity and respect.

The next object of their mission was to collect all the grand efforts of human art, and transmit them to France. This they have fully accomplished, and the National Museum at Paris, is now become the repository of the spoils of Italy. Such was the general satisfaction at the conduct of Monge, during his

his residence in a public capacity at Rome, that he was second on the list of candidates for the Directory, an office for which, it is not difficult to pronounce, he was by no means calculated.

He is at present in his proper element—for he appears far better calculated to superintend the embellishments, than to launch the thunder, of a great commonwealth.

GENERAL MIRANDA

Was born in Mexico; for his colleague, Dumourier, commits an error when he terms him a Peruvian. Notwithstanding the jealousy with which the Spaniards were accustomed to treat the native Americans, this gentleman found means to obtain a Colonel's commission, and was employed by the Governor of Guatemala in several confidential situations. He is thought very early in life to have entertained the generous resolution of emancipating his countrymen from thralldom; and to this is attributed his precipitate retreat from New Spain.

Since that time, he has been almost literally a WANDERER. In the course of his travels, he has visited every part of Europe, and resided more than once in England. Being possessed of taste, learning, and a classical style, he was enabled to collect and to narrate a variety of anecdotes, and observations relative to the manners, policy, laws, learning, and, above all, the military establishments, of every nation.

No sooner had the French Revolution taken place,

and a foreign war become inevitable, than he repaired to Paris from St. Petersburg, where he was in great favour with the Empress *, who endeavoured, but in vain, to attach him to her person and service. By means of Petion, he obtained the rank of Major-general, and very ably and effectually seconded the efforts of Dumourier in Belgium. Being an excellent engineer, he displayed great military science in the art of attack ; in short, he soon became respected in the army, and popular in the capital.

When the *hero of Jemappe* penetrated into Holland, he was appointed to the command of the troops destined to attack Maestricht : the attempt proved abortive ; but, as this evidently proceeded from the negligence of the General at the head of the *covering* army, his laurels were not blighted by the event.

The conduct of Dumourier, as soon as he began to experience a reverse of fortune, became suspicious ; and his frequent conferences with the Austrian

* Miranda was introduced at Cherson, to the late Empress, by Prince Potemkin, who presented him at the same time to the Emperor Joseph, and he was most graciously received by both.

The Court of Spain afterwards claimed him as a subject, but he was protected by Catharine, who refused to deliver him up.

Her Imperial Majesty, indeed, always treated him with great respect, and offered to confer many favours on him ; however, at the commencement of the French Revolution, he left St. Petersburg, with a decided intention to serve in the French armies, a circumstance that gave great offence to the haughty Sovereign whom he had abandoned.

General, which ended at length in his entire defection, rendered all the patriots in the army jealous of him. Miranda instantly communicated his fears to his friend Petion, at that time a Member of the Committee of Public Safety; and orders were soon after issued to arrest the Commander in Chief. This circumstance saved the life of * Miranda; for Dumourier had attributed the loss of the battle of Nerwindin to him, and still blames him in his history. To this the other has made a reply, equally able and animated.

No sooner had the party of the *Gironde* been overwhelmed by the energies of the *Mountain*, than Miranda was imprisoned. He was liberated at the general *goal-delivery* on the execution of Robespierre; took an active part against the sections of Paris, during the last insurrection, and was once more put under arrest by order of the Directory.

Since that period he has been enjoined to quit France, under pretence of being a *foreigner*. This ungrateful return for his services was, perhaps, suggested at the instance of the court of Madrid, which has long viewed him with a jealous eye. If so, it was baffled in the first instance; for Miranda refused to obey the order; and, claiming the rights of French *citizenship*, appealed to the legislature, in consequence of which the Executive was obliged to desist, for a time. Its power, rather than its justice, however, prevailed at length, and he was driven into exile.

* He was fortunate enough to be acquitted, after a trial of five days, before the Revolutionary Tribunal of Paris.

General Miranda at present resides in this country ; but, like the other emigrants (Pichegru, De Puisaye, and a few more excepted), he receives no countenance from Government, being tolerated rather than cherished.

CERUTTI,

Was a man of letters, amiable in his manners, gentle in his deportment, and possessed of the happy faculty of adapting his talents to the capacities of the multitude. This circumstance rendered him peculiarly proper to superintend a popular work ; and we accordingly find him uncommonly successful in a paper called *La Feuille Villageoise*, which he contrived to render *toute-à-tous*. This publication appeared every Thursday, and had an extensive circulation throughout all France, and more especially in the southern departments*. In Lyons, which abounds with manufacturers, it was much read ; and the Revolution is not a little indebted for its popularity to the labours of this enlightened citizen, who died with an unstained reputation, while in the height of his glory.

On the demise of Cerutti, who, in the early part of the Revolution, had been pointed out as a candidate for the office of Governor to the Prince Royal, the *Feuille Villageoise* was consigned to the care of Grouvelle and Guinguené, both of them men of talents.

* Mad. Genlis first published her little pastoral, entitled, " The Shepherdess of the Pyrenées," in this paper.

As a file of this paper is now before me, I shall exhibit an idea of the manner in which it was carried on under their management, from No. 34, Thursday, 23d May, 1793—

“ SPECIMEN OF A COUNTER-REVOLUTION, &c.

“ A HINT TO REPUBLICANS.

11th January 1382.

“ The inhabitants of Paris rose on the 1st of March, 1382, in consequence of the exorbitant taxes: this was the third revolt during the reign of Charles VI. on the same subject.

“ Charles, who had carefully dissimulated his desire of vengeance, arrived, on the 10th of January, 1382, at St. Dennis, where he offered up thanks to God, on account of his victory over the Flemings at Rosbecq, 25,000 of whom had been left on the field of battle.

“ The Provost of the Merchants, and some others of the chief Burgesses, were imprudent enough to repair thither, to salute the victorious King, and to request him to enter *his* capital. The Monarch accepted the invitation; and on the next day, marching at the head of his troops, he overturned the barriers, cut down the gates, took possession of the principal parts of the city, and instantly seized 300 of the most respectable inhabitants.

“ A goldsmith and a draper were both hanged; Nicholas Flamel, another insurgent, was beheaded; and John Desmaisons, a respectable Magistrate, shared the same fate. On this, several who were confined killed themselves, to avoid a public execution; and most of those who neglected to do so, were either privately put to death in prison, or thrown into the river during the night.

“ This tragedy being ended, the people were assembled in a court before the palace; and the King having seated himself on his throne, the Chancellor reprimanded them in a set speech for their frequent revolts and rebellions. On this, knowing the bloody disposition of the court, they were afraid of being massacred by the soldiery; but the Dukes of Berry and Burgundy falling at the Monarch's feet, his Majesty granted to such of the prisoners as were still alive a free pardon. They were accordingly restored to liberty; but they were stripped of nearly all their fortune.

“ Charles VI. did not stop here: he increased the imposts according to his own caprice; and robbed the rich merchants, at one time, under pretext that they had excited the revolt, and at another, that they had not opposed it. But these taxes and confiscations enriched neither the state nor the King; for the courtiers, the officers of the army, and the financiers, &c. seized upon the whole.

“ Citizens

“ Citizens of the French Commonwealth ; ye who have written, acted, and spoken against Royalty, and in behalf of Liberty ; ye who have acquired ecclesiastical and national property, or any thing appertaining to the Emigrants ; ye who have possessed any authority, or exercised any functions, during the present Revolution ; ye who may even chance to have a few *assignats* in your pockets, learn from this authentic historical document, what will be your lot, if you should ever cease to employ your abilities and talents in support of the infant Republic ! ”

This newspaper was published at Paris, and cost only nine livres a-year.

Had Cerutti lived until the monarchy of Maximilian I. he would have been then persecuted on account of his talents and his virtues. It was lucky for him, perhaps, that he died before he witnessed the excesses that disgraced—not the Revolution—but the authors of those atrocities. The massacres of the priests and nobles in September ; the civic baptisms, or drownings in the Loire ; and the punishment inflicted on the wretched insurgents at Lyons, by means of cannister and grape-shot, attach only to the perpetrators. All kings do not resemble our Henry VIII. nor do all Republicans emulate the vices of Collot D’Herbois, and M. Robespierre !

WALLOT,

A man of science, and one of the last victims of the *Robespierrean* tyranny, was a native of the Palatinate ; but he had settled in France, where he cultivated astronomy for some years. In 1768, he accompanied Cassini to America, in order to observe the longitude of different stations, and try the marine time-pieces.

He was beheaded on the 27th of July, 1794 : had
his

his execution been deferred but a few hours longer, he would assuredly have been saved; as the guillotine severed the head from the body of his persecutor, Maximilian Robespierre, on the succeeding day!

LEQUINIO.

As Anacharsis Cloots termed himself “the Orator of the Human Race,” so Lequinio assumed the title of “Citizen of the Globe.” The latter was a patriot previously to the Revolution, and a Republican before the decree for the abolition of Monarchy.

He sat in the Convention, and voted for the death of Louis. His celebrated work, “*Les Préjugés Détruits*,” abounds with marks of genius. It was printed at Paris: *anno eventus, quo regis & sacerdotes, ab orbe terrarum oblitterandi.*” (1792.)

Here follows a short analysis of it:

Chap. I. which is introductory, concludes thus:

“Men! dare to think! Nations, arise! Tyrants, disappear!”

Chap. II. is occupied in discussing the question, “Whether a man be formed a thinking animal?” The author declares himself for the *negative*.

Chap. III. Of *Prejudices*. These are defined to be “general errors to which men incline without reflection, because they suppose them to be truths.”

“*Prejudices*,” adds the author, arise out of ignorance and the want of consideration; these form the basis on which the system of despotism is erected; and

and it is the masterpiece of art in a tyrant, to perpetuate the stupidity of a nation, in order to perpetuate its slavery and his own dominion.

“Mahommed, that audacious monster, who was arrogant enough to command carnage in the name of Heaven, has made ignorance an express article of religion ; and the greatest difficulty which virtuous men, who may wish to restore the Mahommedans to liberty, have to encounter, will be to make them violate the principle that prohibits instruction.

“The Prussian soldiers, those military machines, who are so powerfully subservient to the despotism of Frederick, have no communication whatever with the citizens : this circumstance engenders a shameful prejudice, which renders them at one and the same time the slaves of the despot, and despots themselves.”

Being determined to hunt down errors of every kind, he advises those who have not courage to hear him—“To plunge into the miry ocean of ancient absurdities, and from fable to fable ascend to the Revelations of Moses ; to the thirty incarnations of the God Wisnou ; to the creation of matter extracted out of nothing ; to the immortality of the soul ; the resurrection of the body ; and to all the monstrous absurdities which, until this day, have degraded man, by smothering his intellectual power and fettering his reason.”

Chap. IV. *Of Truth.*

Chap. V. *Of Glory.*

Chap. VI. *Of Honour.*

Chap.

Chap. VII. Of *Eloquence*. This is called “The art of deceiving mankind.”

Chap. VIII. Of *Religion*. Religion is here considered as hurtful to the human race; and many great names among the Jews, whom all Christians have been taught to venerate, are termed “the Mes-mers and Cagliostro of former ages.”

Chap. IX. Of *Kings*. Here again the author presumes to combat received opinions, which he is pleased to term prejudices, and actually laughs both at monarchs and their admirers: “It is ridiculous enough,” cries he, “to see royalty propagated from father to son, like the king’s evil; it is still more ridiculous to see nations so deceived, by being so accustomed to slavery, as to become the servile idolators of that power by which they are oppressed, without once recollecting it is their own.”

Chap. X. Of *Equality*. It is an equalization of rights, not of property, that is here contended for.

Chap. XI. Of *Virtue*.

Chap. XII. Of *Domestics*.

Chap. XIII. Of the labouring *Class*. These three last chapters inculcate some excellent lessons in favour of morals, humanity, and education, as the best means of attaining virtue and happiness.

Chap. XIV. Of *Women*. This is in unison with the work on the “Rights of Woman.”

Chap. XV. Of *Bastards*.

Chap. XVI. Of *Slaves*.

Chap. XVII. Of *Death*.

Chap. XVIII. Of *Mourning*.

Chap. XIX. Of *the punishment of Death, and Suicide.*

Chap. XX. Of *Oaths.* “Mankind must have been convinced that they were naturally dishonest when they invented Oaths as the test of truth: these do not bind rogues, and good men have no manner of occasion for them.”

Chap. XXI. Of *Intolerance.* The author here, unjustly, attributes the crimes of the priesthood to Christianity.

Chap. XXII. Of *War.*

Chap. XXIII. Of *History.*

Chap. XXIV. Of *the Creation and Antiquity of the World.* The Mosaic chronology is considered as fabulous.

Chap. XXV. Of *Politics and Intrigues.*

Chap. XXVI. Of *Jesus Christ.* This chapter is truly edifying; for it contains an elegant eulogium on the founder of Christianity, whom he is pleased to consider as a friend of “liberty and equality.”

Chap. XXVII. Of *the Grave.* If immortality be a stimulus to virtue, the doctrine insinuated in this chapter must be pernicious.

Chap. XXVIII. Of *Impiety.*

It will appear from the above sketch of a work, which has made some noise, that the author is one of those philosophical sceptics to whom Dr. Priestley addressed a letter, a little before he was driven from this country by the iron hand of persecution—a country which will hereafter be proud to claim him as her own.

Lequinio has been nominated to many important missions; and in particular to *La Vendée**, while in a state of insurrection. We too frequently detest all those who do not believe just as much, and exactly in the same manner as ourselves: certain it is, however, that although the author of "Prejudices destroyed," may be obnoxious to censure, even from moderate men, his conduct in private life is such as to afford an example to believers of all kinds.

It was a liberal principle professed by a wise nation of antiquity, "that they left crimes against the Gods to the vengeance of the offended Deities."

DROUET.

It is the uniform effect of revolutions to bring obscure persons into notice, and to create as it were talent, where it was least likely to be sought after. A Republic calls forth the energies of all its citizens; and, as it grants to none, the *exclusive privilege* of being useful to the state, every active and ambitious mind rushes forward in its service.

Emulation has, in no era of the history of the world, been so conspicuous as in that of the French Revolution, during which we have beheld private soldiers elevated to the rank of Generals, and obscure

* In this *new* edition, the editor feels it incumbent on him to declare, that Lequinio has been accused of perpetrating many enormities during his mission in that distracted department. He is said to have treated the unfortunate inhabitants with uncommon severity, and to have had recourse to *military tribunals* for their punishment.

citizens elected to the dignity of Senators. The part of Drouet's life, which may be called political, has been tempestuous in the extreme; the storm began on his preventing the escape of Louis XVI. since which adventure he himself has escaped three different deaths.

The first was the project set on foot by two priests for assassinating him at his lodgings in the *Rue de Turenne* at Paris, in revenge for his frustrating the evasion of the royal family. The second was meditated by the enraged and transiently victorious emigrants in the Austrian army, when he fell into their hands, on which occasion they ordered an iron cage to be made, in order to exhibit him to the public view: and lastly—had he not broken from prison—that which he would have suffered with Babœuf, in consequence of his share in the conspiracy of May 1796, which one party affected to unravel with great ingenuity, while the other as positively denied the existence of it.

Whatever the object of this real or pretended conspiracy might have been, Drouet was as deeply involved in it as those who have been condemned and executed for carrying it on. It nevertheless appears to have been a subject of no uneasiness or regret to the members vested with the powers of government at the time, that he contrived to elude the sentence of the law.

It is impossible to discover what fate is yet reserved for so restless and perturbed a spirit: he left a note with an intimate friend, saying, that when the proper moment

moment returned for asserting the cause which he had so heartily adopted, he should shew himself again. He is reported to have made the *Pays de Vaud* his temporary residence, near the border of the lake of *Yverdon*, where his knowledge of agriculture, and his enthusiasm for liberty, obtained him a welcome reception. His wife and sister live with him, but they go by fictitious names.*

Drouet's mind, like his person, is of a robust structure; his voice and gesture too, as well as his features, are rough and harsh; and every motion of his body, nay, every sentence he utters, exhibits a peculiar air of turbulence; finally, it may be said of this Frenchman, that Nature seems to have formed him on purpose to labour in her most dangerous works, and to struggle against the greatest difficulties and dangers.

Drouet was certainly out of his proper element when in the National Convention. It was the reward his fellow citizens thought proper to bestow on him for his zeal, his courage, and his fidelity, at *Varennes*; where he contrived to overturn a loaded cart, in order to block up a bridge over which the King was to pass—where he braved the swords and pistols of the guards and followers of the royal fugi-

* In a petition transmitted by him to the Council of Five Hundred, he referred to them the consideration of his case, and begged they would wipe off the stigma from Republics, "that they were always ungrateful." He was afterwards returned a member of the *last third*, through the Jacobin interest, but never attempted to take his seat.

tive ; and where, in company with M. Sauffe, he refused a considerable pecuniary offer by way of bribe.

A recompence more suitable to the genius and slender education of Drouet might have been devised ; for as he knew little of the world, and less of the polity and government of nations, he made but an awkward figure among his colleagues. His warmth of temper would not allow him to abstain from discussing subjects which he had scarcely reflected on ; and this inexperience, with sometimes an ungrammatical or provincial expression, exposed him to the sarcasms of his adversaries, and thence he became irritable and intemperate to a great degree. This is said to have occasioned the extraordinary mission he was sent upon, as the only lawful expedient to put him *safely* out of the way.

VALADY.

Godefroi Yzarn, Marquis de Valady, was a native of that district of France, which, under the old government, was called *La Rourgue*, and which is now included in the department of L'Aveiron.

His family was rich, noble, and ancient ; but having been for many years resident on its estate, in a remote province, it was unknown at Versailles ; and was consequently excluded from the favours and honours so liberally bestowed upon more assiduous courtiers. To relieve it from this obscurity, Valady's father sought an alliance with those possessed of what was called *illustration at court* ; and pitched upon the family

family of the Comte de Vaudreuil, then in high favour with the Queen. Nor did the Count hesitate to accept for his son-in-law a young man, who was heir to an estate much larger than his own. In consequence of this agreement between the two fathers, Mademoiselle de Vaudreuil and young Valady were married, when her age did not exceed thirteen, and he had scarcely numbered three years more.

Endowed by nature with strong faculties, and an exalted imagination, Valady, while growing up to manhood, imbibed from the ancient authors a love of philosophy, an ardent passion for liberty, and a romantic turn of mind. This disposition accorded ill with the severity of an unfeeling father, the brutal tyranny of a pedantic tutor, and the arbitrary manner in which his hand had been disposed of, in consequence of which his affections were pledged to a young woman, whose moral qualities bore no resemblance to his own.

“He wanted a soul, (he said) and they had given him nothing but a body.”

His resentment at the ill-treatment he had received, increased with increasing years; while his spirits, which were naturally high, subsided into a deep and listless melancholy, from which the necessity of exertion, or some incident more than commonly pleasant, could alone rouse him. In his moments of dejection, it was painful to be in his society. He was as wayward as a child: but when he suddenly started into his sublimer moods, his flights of fancy were equally lofty, delightful, and eccentric.

Such

Such was his state of mind, when, in the year 1786, he resolved to escape from a kingdom of whose artificial manners he had been the victim, in order to search for more simple habits of life, and for souls more congenial, in countries reputed to be free. With this view he came to England, being at that time about nineteen years of age. He had not been long in London,* before every effort was made by his family to prevail on him to return. The French Ambassador solicited in vain; and a friend, sent over by M. de Vaudreuil, found remonstrances and entreaties *equally ineffectual*. But as Valady was fearful that force or artifice might be advantageously employed in the metropolis in order to get him away, he removed to an academy at Fulham, where he studied the English language, and laws, with great assiduity.

A stay of three or four months, seconded by great powers of mind, obtained him the mastery of our tongue; but was far from confirming the enthusiastic admiration he had felt for the British Constitution. He fancied, Heaven knows with what truth, that the executive government had contrived, by means of influence and corruption, to identify itself with the legislative body; and thence he concluded that Parliament, instead of being the *Ægis* of Liberty, was a more potent engine of despotism than could be produced in any other form; because ancient prejudices, surviving its ancient constitution, gave the fair colour

* He was recommended to Mr. Bell, of the Strand, and for the first two or three months resided at his house.

of legitimate power to the foulest encroachments upon our national rights.

Strongly impressed with these opinions, he was desirous of visiting America, where he hoped to meet with freedom in a less sophisticated shape. But this was not a project of easy execution.—His family refusing to make him any remittances, his purse was altogether inadequate to the exigencies of an adventure of this kind. Some kind of a bargain, however, he made with an American Captain; and was waiting for a fair wind at a miserable alehouse in Wapping, when Madame de Vaudreuil, and her daughter, came to England in pursuit of the young runaway. The entreaties of his mother-in-law, and the tears of his virgin-bride, seduced the young philosopher from his purpose; and he consented to accompany them to France, where immediately after his arrival, he obtained an ensigncy in the French Guards.

Still, however, his opinion of the unsuitable match made for him by his father remained the same. He went, indeed, frequently to the country-house of M. de Vaudreuil, and sometimes passed whole weeks there; but, to the great surprise of *Madame*, and probably to the still greater astonishment of her daughter, he never indicated a wish to consummate his nuptials, although the hand of Nature had long written “woman” upon the fair person he had espoused. The patience of Madame de Vaudreuil, who was desirous of having in her family an heir to Valady’s estate, being at last exhausted, she led him one evening,

somewhat loath, to her daughter's room; and, giving him to understand that her house afforded no other bed for his accommodation, left him there to lament his hard fate, in being thus compelled to pass the night with one of the prettiest women in all France!

It was not to be supposed that the enthusiast of liberty, and the philosopher, could patiently endure the slavish restraints imposed on the armed agents of despotism, or relish the light and frivolous conversation of young military men. Valady accordingly made but an indifferent soldier, and associated little with his *corps*. At length his situation became so uneasy, that one morning, in the early part of 1787, he waited upon the Duke de Biron, and resigned his commission into that veteran's hands. Then returning to his lodgings, he cut off his hair close to his head; laid aside his usual dress, the neatness of which bordered upon elegance; and assumed a habit, quaker-like in form and colour, but worn in a very slovenly way.

Shortly after he made an excursion to Geneva; and there he chanced to meet with an English Pythagorean, well known by the name of *Black Pigst*, who confined himself entirely to vegetable fare. Valady immediately adopted this gentleman's dietetic system, and for several years after never tasted animal food.

Notwithstanding a mode of living, which in a long voyage would have subjected him to the greatest privations, and the far more agreeable expedient that Madame de Vaudreuil had employed to reconcile him

to his wife, Valady still retained his intention of visiting America, whither his friend Brissot was already gone. But his supplies of money were so completely cut off by his father's avarice, and displeasure at his eccentric conduct, that when he came to Nantz, he found his embarrassment still greater than it had been at Wapping. He had not wherewithal to pay his passage. He told the American Captain, however, that though destitute of money, he had it in his power to make him an ample compensation for the trouble and expence he might occasion during the voyage. "In what way?" said the Captain, who expected to receive some article of merchandize instead of cash. "I will teach you philosophy," said Valady. Unfortunately, philosophy was a commodity for which the honest seamen knew of no market, and he begged leave to decline taking it on board.

While Valady was waiting for more substantial means of effecting his purpose, the increasing difficulties of the court, and the growing discontent of the people, induced him to revisit Paris.—"I thought you were in America," said one of his friends on seeing him. "No," answered Valady—"things are growing too interesting in my own country."

But as the progress of events, and of public opinions, was sluggish in comparison to the operations of his ardent mind, his hopes of seeing the French arise from their knees, and assume the commanding attitude of a nation determined to be free, soon subsided. He no longer thought that his presence could be of any avail; and in the summer of 1788, return-

ed to England. So little was his fondness for philosophy abated during his absence, that one of his first cares, on arriving in the capital, was to visit a gentlemen of eminence in the literary world,* and to propose to him the station of chief of the Pythagorean sect. Followers, he assured him, he could not fail to find in every quarter of the globe. Upon his refusal, Valady intimated some intention of assuming the honourable post himself. “But, in that case, (said the Englishman) would it not be proper that you should understand Greek?” “True, (answered Valady) I had forgot that. I will go and study it at Glasgow.”

He set off for that place on foot; staid there six months; and then returned to London, where he chanced to hear, by means of Mr. Williams, that Mr. Thomas Taylor, of Walworth, was generally considered as the principal Pythagorean in England. Valady immediately purchased his works; and, after having perused them, dispatched the following scroll, which is highly characteristic of his eccentricity, talents, and temper of mind——

TO THOMAS TAYLOR, BETTER NAMED LYSIS, G. YZARN
VALADY, OF LATE A FRENCH MARQUIS AND TANISSAIRE:

Sendeth Joy and Honour. 12 Xbre. 1788, vulg. æra.

“O Thomas Taylor! mayst thou welcome a brother Pythagorean, led by a Saviour God to thy divine school! I have loved wisdom ever since a child, and have found the greatest impediments, and been forced to great struggles, before I could clear my way to the source of it; for I was born in a more barbarous country than ever was Illyria of old. My family never favoured my inclination to study; and I have been involved in so many

* The Rev. David Williams.

cares and troubles, that it cannot be without the intervention of some friendly Deity, that I have escaped the vile rust of barbarism, and its attendant meanness of soul. My good fortune was, that I met, eighteen months ago, an English gentleman of the name of Pigott, who is a Pythagorean Philosopher, and who easily converted me to the diet and manners agreeable to that most rich and beneficent Deity—Mother Earth; to that heaven-inspired change I owe perfect health and tranquillity of mind, both of which I had long been deprived of. Also my own oath has acceded to the eternal oath, (which mentions the golden commentator on G. V.) and I would more cheerfully depart from my present habitation on this Themis-forsaken earth, than defile myself evermore with animal food, stolen either on earth, in air, or water.

“I met with thy works but two days past. O divine man! a prodigy in this iron age! who would ever thought thou couldst exist among us in our shape! I would have gone to *China* for a man endowed with a tenth part of thy light! Oh, grant me to see thee, to be lustrated and initiated by thee! What joy, if, like to *Proclus Leonas*, to thee I could be a domestic! who feel living in myself the soul of *Leonidas*.

“My determination was to go and live in North America, from love of Liberty, and there to keep a school of Temperance and love, in order to preserve so many men from the prevailing disgraceful vices of brutal intemperance and selfish cupidity.—There, in progress of time, if those vices natural to a commercial country are found to thwart most of the blessings of Liberty, the happy select ones, taught better discipline, may form a society by-themselves, such a one as the gods would favour and visit lovingly, which would preserve true knowledge, and be a seminary and an asylum for the lovers of it.

“There I would devoutly erect altars to my favourite gods—Dioscuri, Hector, Aristomenes, Messen, Pan, Orpheus, Epaminondas, Pythagoras, Plato, Timoleon, Marcus Brutus, and his Portia; and, above all, Phœbus, the god of my hero Julian, and the father of that holy, gentle *Commonwealth* of the Peruvians, to which *nullus ultor* has, as yet, been suscitèd!

Music and Gymnastic are sciences necessary for a teacher to possess—(what deep and various sense these two words contain!) and I am a stranger to both! O Gods! who gave me the thought and the spirit, give me the means, for all things are from you.

“Thomas Tayler, be thou their instrument to convey into my mind knowledge, truth, and prudence! Do thou love and help me. I will go to thee to-morrow morning.

P. S. May I look to thee, endowed with an *ancient* and no modern enthusiasm!

GRACCHUS CROTONEIOS.”

According to the promise contained in his letter, Valady waited upon Mr. Taylor the following day; threw himself in due form at his feet; tendered to him a small sum in bank notes, which at that moment constituted all his fortune; and begged, with great humility, to be admitted as a disciple into his house. His prayer was granted; and for some time he enjoyed the advantage of imbibing philosophy from the fountain-head: but, finding himself more formed for an active than a contemplative life, he determined to quit his studies, in order to take some share in the political commotions which began to agitate France with redoubled force. When he took leave of his master in philosophy, he exchanged his quakerlike apparel for a complete suit of military clothes. “I came over Diogenes, (said he) I am going back Alexander.”

Here follows two letters from him, copied *literally*, even to the errors, after his return to France——

LETTER I.

“DEORUM PONTIFEX SACER, CARUSQUE!

“He mighty Neptune, sent propitious gales, and in three hours blew me over the main on my native and welcome shore. I shall greet the capital on Monday next, about mid-day. There I will embrace three or four worthy acquaintance, and haste to my best beloved friends in the South, and to the recovery of my ravished wealth from the piratic hands of my father.

father. In two months or before you shall hear of me again. Vale adfirit tibi Dii omnes.

From your well aproved friend,

G. YZARN VALADY."

Thomas Taylor, Phr.

No. 9, Manor-Place, Walworth, London.

LETTER II.

"DEAR SIR, *Paris, 12 March, 89, v. æ.*

"I will write you sooner than I supposed, and I am induced to it by the change that I consider is taking place in my circumstances. First, my old grandfather has sent me an extraordinary bounty, which has taken me out of great uneasiness. 2dly, I have reasonable grounds to hope a reconciliation with my father. 3dly, it is most certain that the Duke of Orleans will petition the States General for the establishment of divorce in France, which would enable me to break my fetters, and marry the girl of my heart. Then my father would surely give me a settlement, and I would live happy in a delightful solitude, and quietly expect in my own country till circumstances should enable me to pursue my great views abroad, toward the execution of Heaven's decrees. After the whole of my fortune should have fallen in my hands, whether I shall or shall not meddle with politics and embrace an active life in this important crisis, is what I cannot determine, till I have seen the Marq. de la Fayette in my own country, whereto I shall set off in four days.

"I request your prayers and sacrifices to all the Gods for me, but chiefly to both Venus, Athene,

and Hermes, to which I intreat you will prepare by abstinence.

I am for ever your friend,

G. Y. VALADY.

A Toulouse en Languedoc poste restante.

“ Do remember the buying of Lamprias de Plutarch Patre, in the Pinelli Library.”

Mr. Thomas Taylor, No. 9,

Manor Place, Walworth, London.

It was now the spring of 1789, and every thing announced a revolution, in which he was far more instrumental than is generally supposed.

At the death of the Duke de Biron, whom the French Guards considered as their father, the Marquis du Chatelet was appointed to command them in his place. He was a rigid disciplinarian; and, being one day present at the exercise of the grenadiers, was imprudent enough to say, that there was not one of them who ought not to be sent to the drill of the *Regiment du Roi*. The bold and veteran bands he was inspecting, boiled with rage at the insulting expression; forwarded it from mouth to mouth, and treasured it up with their revenge. Valady was no stranger to their discontent. He went to the barracks of the grenadiers, and persuaded them to accompany him to the Palais Royal, where the Parisian malecontents were accustomed to assemble. The soldiers were received by the people with joyful acclamations, and were welcomed with refreshments, which they repaid by declaring themselves friendly to the popular

popular cause. When this manœuvre had been practised several times under the same auspices, the government took the alarm; issued orders for Valady's arrest; and, if his own assertion may be credited, condemned him to be privately put to death. But timely intimation being given him of his danger, he fled to Nantz, and concealed himself on board an American ship; where the police officers, by whom he was closely pursued, sought for him in vain.

In the mean time, the people of Paris, encouraged by the promises they had received from the Guards, and sure of their neutrality, if not of their support, proceeded to the attack of the Bastille; at length, aided by the skill and intrepidity of their new military friends, they carried the "*King's Castle*" by assault. This was the signal of Liberty to Valady, as well as to all France. He ventured forth from his hiding-place, re-appeared upon the scene, and was witness to the annihilation of a government which a few days before had doomed him to die.

Some time after he repaired to his native country, in order to oppose his popularity to the resentment which the peasantry harboured against his father. He saved the *Château*, and the *Seigneur*; but these services were of no value in the estimation of the old man, who detested his political sentiments still more than his former eccentric pursuits. Valady could obtain neither marks of affection nor money; and returned to Paris in a state of poverty highly honourable to his filial affection; since he rather chose to endure it, than to compel his father by law, to sur-

render an estate to which he was entitled in his mother's right.

From this extreme indigence he was relieved, in 1792, by a *Bourgeois* of his own province, who purchased of him a reversion of a small piece of land for thirty thousand livres. Since his return from his father's mansion, his dress had been either the coarse habit of a common national guard, or a shabby blue coat, generally accompanied by a beard of frightful length, and always by a brown cropt head that was kept a stranger to the comb—a figure dirty and gaunt, and grim, and horribly unlike that of a French Marquis. But when this golden shower washed him clean, his person assumed quite a different appearance. His quakerlike suit was of the best cloth, and most delicate blossom colour, and was worn with all the concomitants of a studied and refined simplicity.

Though his person was thus polished, his political ferocity remained the same. On one of the latter days of July, a friend, who called at his lodgings*, was surprised at seeing a common musket, a cartridge box, and the sabre of a grenadier, suspended in his room.

“What!” said he, “are you going to the frontiers?”—“No,” answered Valady, “but I have every thing prepared for the assault of the Thuilleries.” It does not follow hence that there was *any* regular plan to attack the place, or that Valady was

* In the Hôtel du Roi, close adjoining to the court-yard of the Thuilleries.

one of the conspirators. It is far more probable that he foresaw, in common with other sagacious men, that the King's equivocal conduct, and his detaining the Swiss Guards about his person, in defiance of a positive law, would produce the explosion that, on the 10th of the following month, hurled the unhappy monarch headlong from his throne.

The dissolution of the Legislative Assembly followed; and the convocation of a National Convention, to which Valady was returned a member for his native province, the department of L'Aveiron, immediately took place. In that factious body he adhered to the Girondists; and, though he did not distinguish himself as a speaker, his talents, his influence, and his name, afforded them considerable support. On the trial of the King, nothing could be more noble than Valady's conduct. He voted that Louis should be kept in honourable confinement till the termination of the war; that he should then be sent out of the Republic with a large pension; and that a fortune should be bestowed by the nation upon Madame Elizabeth, suitable to the high expectations of *a daughter of France*.—His suffrage being erroneously reported by the Journalists, Valady, to correct their misrepresentations, affixed a placard to the walls of Paris, which ended with the following remarkable words; “It became Philip Egalité, whom Louis XVI. pardoned in 1787, to condemn him to death; and it became me, whom in 1789, and in his secret council, he condemned to die, to vote for the preservation of his life.”

This was a grievous offence to the faction of the Mountain; and some hand-bills, which he signed with the name of *Annington*, and in which he endeavoured to expose their dangerous practices, exasperated them still more. He was consequently included in the proscription of the party of philosophers who were not more richly stored with talents and virtues, than deficient in vigour, prudence, and a knowledge of the world. Valady got safe out of Paris; joined Louvet and his companions in their flight to Brittany; and shared in their perils, hardships, and hair-breadth escapes. The state of his mind on one of these occasions was highly affecting; for though we may admire the man who meets death without dismay, our feelings are certainly acted upon with more effect by those who appear to have some feeling for themselves. Being concealed with Louvet and some others in a loft, where they had reason to suppose themselves in danger of immediate detection and death, Valady, who was worn out with previous fatigue and anxiety, confessed that he was unable to endure the idea of his own destruction. A few minutes after his terrors redoubled, when a hoarse voice rudely bade them come down, and refused to explain the meaning of the injunction.

This alarm, however, proved a false one; and Valady, while wandering from place to place in search of an asylum, obtained a fatal experience of the little dependence that is to be placed upon friends in the hour of distress. At length, in a desperate attempt

attempt to pass through Perigueux, he was recognized, and guillotined on the 11th of December 1793, by the ferocious agents of Robespierre.

Thus perished one of the purest and most ardent patriots that France has seen—a man whose judgment was not equal to his capacity of mind; whose weak nerves did not always second the generous impulses of his soul; and whose unequal temper often cast a shade over the benevolence of his heart.

It must also be acknowledged, that on the whole he was disserviceable to that very cause which it was the object of his life to promote.

NAPOLÉONE BUONAPARTE*.

It requires but a very superficial examination into the history of mankind to discover, that great events

* The following account of Buonaparte was published in America by M. Volney, in 1797. It corresponds in all the essential points with that given above.

“The family of Buonaparte belongs to Corsica. The father of the Buonapartes now living, was a farmer (he should have said, a man of property) at Ajaccio, a little town and port upon the western coast; there he possessed lands, which is indeed a proof that he was not a foreigner. Dying about fourteen or fifteen years ago, he left a widow and six (seven) children, four sons and two daughters.

“Governor Marbœuf, who was fond of his family, sent to one of the military schools in France, the two eldest boys, viz. Napoleone, and Giuseppe, his younger brother. Marbœuf dying in 1786, they returned to their mother in Corsica. The present General was then eighteen or nineteen years old.

“When the revolution began in Corsica, in 1790, the younger brother

events are productive of great characters. They excite the passions; invigorate individual talents; rescue merit from undeserved obscurity; and, setting aside the fictitious distinctions founded on the follies, rather than the conventions of society, give full play to exertion, and ample scope to genius. But this fact is never more satisfactorily illustrated, than in the contests connected with, and founded on, the love of freedom: a principle intimately blended with our existence and our happiness; and which, being

brother was appointed a member of the Departmental Directory at Corte, and the elder, commander of the internal guards at Ajaccio. It was here I first got acquainted with him, and from that circumstance I am enabled to give you the following account of this celebrated man.

“As to language, I never could perceive he understood a word of English. Italian, he of course speaks with great ease and elegance, it being his mother-tongue; and French, better than any Corsican I ever met with. He is a man of middle stature, of a pale and delicate complexion, though tolerable strong, blue (black) eyes, aquiline nose, the chin prominent, the forehead wide; the whole a countenance strongly indicative of a discerning and elevated mind. He is habitually of a taciturn and contemplative disposition; yet he is not devoid of the French elegance and gaiety.

“He appears passionately fond of nothing but politics, and the military art. Paoli who feared, did us the service to drive him and his family from Corsica. According to public accounts, he has married the widow of General Beauharnois; so that for the future he appertains to France, in consequence of that union; but indeed he belonged to it before, by the ties of education, and almost by those of birth, since Corsica has for some years back been one of its provinces.”

founded in nature, is latent in the basest and most selfish hearts.

The hemisphere of Greece exhibited a galaxy of heroes, during her struggle for liberty, against the domestic tyrants who oppressed, and the foreign kings who endeavoured to enslave her. The names and actions of Pelopidas and Epaminondas; of Leonidas and Agis; of Hermodius and Aristogiton; are familiar to every classical scholar, and have been long dear to mankind. In Rome, we behold one Brutus arise to expel Tarquin, and another to punish Cæsar. The burning hand of Scævola appalled the heart of the king of Etruria; and a single citizen, in the person of Horatius Cocles, defending a bridge against a little army, struck an astonished enemy with terror and dismay.

To recur to modern times, a few obscure peasants, such as Tell, Erni, Stauffacher, rescued Switzerland from the oppression of the haughty House of Austria, and established a federal commonwealth, that has lasted longer *unaltered* than any monarchy in Europe*. In our days, we have beheld a few American citizens ennobling, by their struggles, a memorable revolution, achieved by a printer†, a lawyer‡, a farmer§: we have often heard one of

* Alas! it no longer exists, even in name. Since the publication of the first edition this grand change has been effected; and it must be owned, that the event appears highly inauspicious to the cause of liberty.

† Franklin. ‡ Adams, the present President. § Washington.

its authors reproached with being a stay-maker* ; and the St. James's Gazette actually ridiculed a man as a *horse-dealer*†, whose promotion to the rank of Major-general in the British service it was afterwards forced to record.

Similar causes in France have produced nearly similar effects, and the triumphs of the monarchy have been obliterated by the glories of the Republic. Disorganised, undisciplined, dissatisfied ; her armies, at the beginning of the contest, exhibited numbers without valour, and enterprise without success. It can have been no common principle, then, that has forced the veteran troops of Europe to *turn pale* before her fresh levies ; and the Brunswicks, the Clerfayes, the Wurmsers, to bend their silver locks to men, new to the science of war, and unknown to history.

At one time we have seen Dumouriez feebly opposing the allies, and actually deprecating their efforts ; at another time, invading their possessions ; and, soon after, flying to them for succour and protection. Jourdan, by the exertion of soldiery bravery alone, taught the enemy to respect his countrymen ; Pichegru displayed all the resources of a great tactician, and directed every movement by the rules of art. Moreau, in imitation of Xenophon, acquired more glory by retreat, than others have achieved by victory ; and Buonaparte, by uniting the warrior and the statesman in his own person, appears to have consummated the glory of his adopted country.

* Paine.

† " One Arnold."

This extraordinary man, born in the town of Ajaccio, in Corsica, in 1767, is the son of Charles Buonaparte and Lætitia Raniolini. His father, who was also a native of Ajaccio, was bred to the civil law, at Rome, and took part with the celebrated Paoli, in the ever-memorable struggle, made by a handful of brave islanders, against the tyrannical efforts of Louis XV, and the Machiavelian schemes of his minister Choiseul.

I am assured, by a near relation of the family, that he not only laid aside the *gown* upon this occasion, but actually carried a musket as a volunteer !

On the conquest of the island, he wished to retire, with the gallant chieftian who had so nobly struggled for its independence ; but he was prevented by his uncle, a canon, who exercised a parental authority over him.

In 1773, a deputation from the three estates was sent to wait on the King of France ; and, on this occasion, Charles Buonaparte was selected to represent the nobles. He was soon after promoted to the office of *procuratore reale* of Ajaccio ; where his ancestors, supposed to have been originally from Tuscany, had been settled nearly two hundred years.

The progeny of the elder Buonaparte was numerous, for he had seven children ; four sons and three daughters. It was his good fortune, however, to be cherished by the French ; and both he and his family lived in the greatest intimacy with M. de Marbœuf, the Governor, who received a revenue of sixty thousand livres a-year, on condition of doing nothing !

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An *intendant* was paid nearly as much ; and a swarm of hungry leeches, engendered in the corruption of the court of Versailles, at one and the same time sucked the blood of the Corsicans, and drained the treasure of the mother country : in short, like the conquests of more recent times, the subjugation of that island seems to have been achieved for no other purpose than to gratify avarice, and satiate rapacity.

On the death of his friend, Charles Buonaparte, M. de Marbœuf continuing to patronize his family, placed his second son, * Napoleone, the subject of these memoirs, at the *Ecole Militaire*, or Military Academy.

The advantages resulting from this seminary, which has produced more great men than any other in Europe, were not lost on young Buonaparte ; he there applied himself, with equal assiduity and address, to mathematics, and studied the art of war as a regular science.

Born in the midst of a republican struggle in his

* A French periodical writer has been pleased to assert, that General Paoli was his godfather, (*son parrain fut le fameux Paoli*) ; but, on making the proper enquiries, I find that this circumstance is doubtful. General Paoli recollects that he stood godfather to a son of Charles Buonaparte, but he is not sure whether it was to Napoleone, or one of his brothers. So much was Charles Buonaparte attached to General Paoli, that, on hearing from M. de Marbœuf that some Frenchmen intended to assassinate him, he sailed from Ajaccio to Leghorn, whence he repaired to Florence, in order to communicate the particulars of the plot to the English minister.

native land, it was his good fortune to burst into manhood at the moment when the country of his choice shook off the chains with which she had been manacled for centuries. There was also something in his manners and habits that announced him equal to the situation for which he seems to have been destined: instead of imitating the frivolity of the age, his mind was continually occupied by useful studies; and from the lives of Plutarch, a volume of which he always carried in his pocket, he learned, at an early age, to copy the manners, and emulate the actions, of antiquity.

With this disposition, it is but little wonder that he should have dedicated his life to the profession of arms. We accordingly find him, while yet a boy, presenting himself as a candidate for a commission in the artillery; and his success equalled the expectations of his friends, for he was the twelfth on the list, out of the thirty-six who proved victorious in the contest. In consequence of this event, he became a Lieutenant in the French army, and served as such, during two or three years, in the regiment of *La Fere*, which he joined at Valence, in Dauphiny*.

* In 1790, he repaired to his regiment at Auxona, after a short absence, and on this occasion he was accompanied by his brother. On being asked by his companions, what he intended by bringing such a youth along with him? he replied as follows: "*J'ai voulu lui faire voir un beau spectacle; un grand nation qui veut se régénérer, ou périr.*"—"I am desirous to exhibit a noble spectacle to him; that of a great nation, which resolves either to regenerate itself or perish."

In 1790, General Paoli repaired to France, where he was honoured with a civic crown; and there he embraced the son of his old friend, who had served under him at St. Fiorenze in 1768. They met again, soon after, in Corsica; where Buonaparte, then a Captain, was elected Lieutenant-Colonel of a *corps* of Corsican National Guards *in activity*.

On the second expedition fitted out against Sardinia, he embarked with his countrymen, and landed in the little island of Maddalena, which he took possession of, in the name of the French Republic; but finding the troops that had been got together for this expedition, neither possessed organization nor discipline, he returned to the port of Ajaccio, whence he had set out.

In the mean time, a scheme was formed for the annexation of Corsica to the crown of England; and the cabinet, in an *evil hour*, acceded to a plan which, while it diminished the wealth, has contributed but little either to the honour or advantage of this* country.

Buonaparte had a difficult part to act on that occasion: he was personally attached to Pasquale Paoli; he resented the treatment he had experienced during

* "M. de Lomellini observed one day to Dumouriez, during his residence in Genoa, that it would be a very happy thing, were it possible to bore a large hole in the centre of Corsica, in order to bury it under the ocean. He meant to express by this figure, that it would always occasion great trouble to whoever might be in possession of it, and become the cause of frequent wars."—*Life of Gen. Dumouriez*, Vol. I. p. 181.

the reign of the *Terrorists*; and had actually drawn up, with his own hand, the remonstrance transmitted by the Municipality of Ajaccio against the decree declaring the General an enemy to the Commonwealth.

Indeed, he was supposed to be so intimately connected with him, that a warrant was issued by Lacombe de St. Michel, and the two other Commissioners of the Convention, to arrest young Buonaparte! Notwithstanding this, he was determined to remain faithful to his engagements; and, learning that the English fleet in the Mediterranean had sailed for the purpose of seizing his native island, he embarked, along with his family, for the continent, and settled within eighteen leagues of Toulon.

That town, the second sea-port in France, was at this moment in the possession of the English, having been just seized upon by Admiral Lord Hood, who had substituted the British Cross in the place of the three-coloured flag. The military talents of the young Corsican were well known to Salicetti, who introduced him to Barras, now one of the Directory, to whom he afforded indubitable proof of the sincerity of his professions, at a period when suspicion was justified by the most serious and frequent defections. He was accordingly advanced from the rank of *Chef de Brigade*, to that of General of Artillery; and directed, under General Dugommier, the attacks of the various redoubts that surrounded and strengthened this important port, in which Collot d'Herbois soon after declared, "that he had found
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the galley-slaves alone faithful to the Republic *!" It is almost needless to add, that the energy of the French troops, added to the scientific arrangements of the engineers, overcame the zeal and resistance of a motley garrison, and restored the key of the Mediterranean to France.

It may be necessary, however, to remark, that Buonaparte, in 1793, took an active part against General Paoli and the English; for, in the course of that year, he appeared with a small armament before Ajaccio, the town and citadel of which he summoned in the name of the Republic; but he met with a formidable enemy in his own cousin, the brave Captain Mafferia, who commanded a *corps* of Corsicans during the siege of Gibraltar, and had learned the management of red-hot shot under Lord Heathfield.

The conquest of Toulon contributed not a little to raise the credit of Buonaparte; and it proved equally advantageous to his friend Barras. That deputy had been also bred a military man, and was employed by his colleagues on all great emergencies. One of these soon occurred: this was the

* The voluntary exile of the inhabitants prevented Collet d'Herbois from passing a sentence on Toulon similar to that inflicted on Lyons—

“*Que cette ville soit détruite; que le sang de ces habitans grossisse les eaux du Rhone.*”

“Let this city be destroyed, and the blood of its inhabitants increase the waters of the Rhone.” Neither the advocates of aristocracy or democracy seem to be sufficiently aware, how much they hurt the cause of either by cruelty.

disturbance among the sections of Paris, known by the name of the *Insurrection of Vendemiaire*.

On this occasion he took care to be surrounded by able men, among whom was General Buonaparte, whom he had invested with the command of the artillery at the siege of Toulon. It was to another Corsican, however, that he confided the superintendence of the army : this was Gentili, who had just acquired great reputation by his gallant defence of Bastia.

On trial, however, it was immediately discovered, that the *deafness* of Gentili was an invincible obstacle to success, as he could neither hear nor attend to the multiplied and complicated reports of the *Aides du Camp*, who were continually bringing him messages, or addressing him relative to the situation of the enemy. Luckily for the Convention, Napoleone Buonaparte was, at this critical and decisive moment, appointed his successor; and it is to the masterly dispositions made by him, that the triumph of the Representative Body is principally ascribed. It is but justice to add, that the moderation displayed on this occasion is, perhaps, unequalled in the history of the civil wars of modern times!

A nobler field now opened for the exertions of Buonaparte ; for he was soon after invested with the chief command of the French army in Italy, which, under his direction, prepared to open the campaign of 1796.

In the spring of that year, we find the Austro-Sardinian troops defeated within forty miles of Turin ;

rin; fourteen thousand were either killed or taken prisoners on this occasion, and the cannon and camp equipage seized on by the victors. The army of Lombardy was also doomed to experience a most humiliating disaster, although led on by a cautious veteran, Beaulieu, in person : this was attributed solely to the skilful manœuvres of the commander in chief, seconded by the active exertions of Generals Laharpe, Massena, and Servona.

The Austrian General Provera was taken prisoner in a third engagement ; in consequence of which, forty field-pieces, with the horses, mules, and artillery waggons, &c. were captured by the French ; and two thousand five hundred of the allies killed, and eight thousand made prisoners. In short, the battles of Millesimo, Dego, Mondovi, Monte Lerino, and Montenotte, were decisive of the fate of Sardinia ; for the aged and superstitious monarch then seated on the throne, found himself reduced to the humiliating situation of relinquishing Savoy and Nice, and subscribing to such terms as were granted by the Victor, who could have driven him from his throne, and obliged him to spend the short remainder of a wretched life in exile, and perhaps in poverty !

The battle of Lodi, fought on the 21st Floreal, (May 10th) nearly completed the overthrow of the Austrian power in Italy, and added greatly to the reputation of the French arms. On this occasion, a battalion of grenadiers bore down all before them, and reached the bridge of Lodi, shouting—" Long live the Republic !" but the dreadful fire kept up by
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the enemy having stopped their progress, Generals Berthier, Massena, Cervoni, &c. rushed forward; even their presence would have proved ineffectual, had it not been for the intrepidity of Buonaparte, who, snatching a standard from the hand of a subaltern, like Cæsar, on a similar occasion, placed himself in front, and animating his soldiers by his actions and gesticulations—for his voice was drowned in the noise of the cannon and musketry—Victory once more arranged herself under the Gallic banners.

In consequence of this series of victories, Beaulieu was obliged to yield the palm to a younger rival; for he felt himself reduced to the necessity of retreating among the mountains of Tyrol, on which the French took possession of the greater part of Lombardy, and acquired astonishing resources, and immense magazines.

After crossing the Mincio, in the face of the Austrians, the Republican army entered Verona, which so lately had afforded an asylum to a *titular* King of France, and seized on Pavia. Here a new and more dreadful enemy attempted to stop the progress of the conquerors. It was superstition, clothed in cowls and surplices, brandishing a poniard in one hand, and a crucifix in the other; but the speedy punishment of the priests and their adherents put an end to the insurrection, and thus saved Buonaparte and his army from a more imminent danger than they had as yet experienced, and from which no French army, that hitherto crossed the Alps, has been exempt.

At length Mantua alone remained in possession of

the Austrians, and this also was soon invested by the victors, who, at the same time, made inroads into the Tyrol; and, by the battle of Roveredo, and the possession of Trent, became masters of the passes that lead to Vienna.

In the mean while, the gallant Wurmser determined to shut himself up, with the remainder of his dispirited troops, in Mantua; and the Austrians made one more grand effort, by means of General Alvinzy, to rescue his besieged army, and regain their ancient preponderance in Italy. But the battle of Arcola completely disappointed their expectations, and the capture of Mantua at one and the same time concluded the campaign, and their humiliation.

In the winter of 1796, General Buonaparte was united to Madame Beauharnois, a beautiful Frenchwoman, who had experienced a variety of persecutions during the time of Robespierre. Her former *husband attained the rank of General in the service of the Republic, and always conducted himself as a friend of liberty.

On that memorable day, when Louis XVI. and his family repaired to Paris, M. de Beauharnois sat as President of the National Assembly, and exhibited great dignity of demeanour: notwithstanding this, he fell a victim to the Terrorists, who, joining the narrow ideas of Sectarists to the ferocious character

* Before the Revolution he was known by the appellation of Count Alexander Beauharnois, and possessed great influence at court. He was one of the many Nobles who fell during the tyranny of Robespierre.

peculiar to themselves, persecuted all whose opinions were not exactly conformable to their own standard. M. Barras, at length, luckily for her, extended his protection to the widow, who is now the wife of his friend.

The campaign of *1797, opened under the most auspicious circumstances for France; Spain was now in alliance with her; Sardinia acted a subordinate part under her control; Tuscany obeyed her requisitions; Naples had concluded a separate peace, and Rome was at her mercy. In this situation, the eyes of the Court of Vienna, and indeed of all Europe, were turned towards the Archduke Charles, who was said to inherit the military talents of the House of Lorraine.

It was accordingly determined, that this young prince should be appointed commander in chief, and that the hero of Kehl should oppose the hero of Italy. The contest, however, was not long between birth and genius; between a young man of illustrious extraction, surrounded by flatterers, and educated in the corrupting circle of a court, and a hardy Corsican, brought up amidst perils, breathing the spirit of the ancient republics, acquainted with all the machinery

* One of the most disastrous circumstances that occurred during this memorable campaign, was the military execution inflicted on the towns of Macegata, Fermo, Porto di Fermo, Grotto di Mari, and Jesi, on the 8th of March, 1797, by order of Buonaparte.

The indiscriminate butchery of the many, on account of the supposed crimes of a few, reflects infinite dishonour on this great warrior.

of modern warfare, directing every thing under his own eye—whose mistress was the Commonwealth, and whose companion was Plutarch !

At length, in April, 1797, the House of Austria deemed it prudent to sue for an armistice, and accept of terms of accommodation, that would have been at one time deemed humiliating.*

A few weeks after this,† Buonaparte granted peace to Venice, or rather acquired possession of every thing appertaining to that ancient aristocracy. In consequence of this, he took advantage of the absence of the English fleet from the Mediterranean, embarked a body of French troops on board his lately acquired navy, and took possession of the isles of Corfou, St. Maur, Zephalonia, and Zante.

All these were confirmed to France, by the treaty of Campo Formio, signed Oct. 17th ; and no sooner had the victorious chief received the ratification of his Imperial Majesty, than he returned to Paris. The event of a peace with Austria was celebrated at the Luxemburgh, by a grand festival, at which Buonaparte assisted. On this occasion, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, after presenting him to the Directory, made a speech, in which, by pointing to a dis-

* The preliminaries were signed at Leoben, April 18th, 1797, on the following basis :

1. His Imperial Majesty renounced Belgium ;
2. He recognized the new limits of the French Republic ; and
3. He acknowledged the establishment and independence of the Lombard Republic.

† May 14, 1797.

ferent object, he dexterously concealed the future designs of the French Cabinet.*

The reply of the "conqueror of Italy," has been famed rather for its eloquence than correctness.

"Citizen Directors,

"The French people, in order to be free, had kings to combat. To obtain a constitution founded on reason, they had to overcome the prejudices of eighteen hundred years. Religion, absolute monarchy, and the feudal system, governed Europe during the last twenty centuries; *but with the peace which you have concluded begins the era of representative governments.*

"You have succeeded in organizing the great nation, whose vast territory is now circumscribed by those limits alone which Nature herself has traced.

"You have done more. The two first countries of Europe, once celebrated for the arts, sciences, and great men they produced, behold the genius of Liberty arising from the tombs of their ancestors. They are two pedestals on which Fate is about to place two powerful nations.

"I have now the honour to present you with the treaty of Campo Formio, signed and ratified by his

* "A new enemy is to be conquered. This enemy (adds he) is celebrated for its hatred against the French, and for the insolent dominion it exercises over all the nations upon the earth. Let the genius of Buonaparte make this haughty foe soon expiate its hatred, and dictate to the tyrants of the sea, a peace worthy of the glory of the French Republic."

Majesty the Emperor. This peace secures the liberty, the prosperity, and the glory of the Republic.

“When the happiness of the French people shall be settled on the basis of the best and wisest laws, all Europe will be free.”

In order to deceive the enemy, relative to an expedition equally singular and important, which was now become a favourite object with the French cabinet, Buonaparte published an address to the “army of England.” He then set off from the capital, and at Calais beheld, for the first time, the hostile shores of Britain. Both there, and at Dunkirk, he reviewed the troops, and as his time would not permit to examine the army in Flanders in person, he dispatched a general in his *suite* thither.

After this, he returned once more to Paris, and set out privately for the southern provinces.

In the mean time, a large fleet, and an immense number of transports, were collecting in several of the seaports of the Mediterranean. Great bodies of the best troops were marched from a variety of different points, and embarked on board vessels of every description. If we are to believe reports, accompanied with an air of authenticity, the army collected on this occasion amounted to 35,000 chosen men. The ships of war consisted of *fifteen sail of the line, fourteen frigates, and several corvettes. The transports under their convoy were 293 sail.

The ports of Marseilles, Toulon, Genoa, and Ce-

* It may be necessary to observe, that two of these were Venetian sixty-four's, armed *en flute*.

vita Vecchia, were fixed on for the embarkation of the stores, provisions, artillery, ammunition, &c. A body of learned men went on board at the same time, with the *apparatus* appertaining to the different arts and sciences in which they excelled.

This *grand armament, the greatest that had appeared in the Mediterranean since the time of the crusades, set sail on the 19th of May, with a favourable gale, and formed a line of several leagues in extent.

While every one was contemplating this great event, and wondering to what point of the compass this new tempest was directed, intelligence was received, at one and the same time, of the attack and surrender of Malta; a rock, which both nature and art had contributed to render impregnable: and it seems still to be a moot point, whether it fell by stratagem or treachery.

Immediately after this, the adventurous Corsican steered towards the Nile, took possession of Alexandria by storm, beat Murat Bey in two actions, the second of which seems to have been decisive, drove Ibrahim Bey into Upper Egypt, and seized on Cairo, Rosetta, Damietta, and Suez.

In the mean time, by an exploit that has conferred on him immortal reputation, Sir Horatio Nelson,

* Of the fifteen sail of the line, employed upon this occasion, eleven were taken and destroyed by Lord Nelson, two made their escape to Corfou and Malta, and two are still in the old port of Alexandria. Of the fourteen frigates, two were destroyed in the grand engagement, one was taken by the Turks, one by our cruizers, and nine or ten are still in the port of Alexandria.

almost entirely annihilated the French squadron, under Admiral Brueys, which had been injudiciously moored in the road of Bequires :

“ If in respect to this calamitous event, (says Buonaparte, in one of his dispatches) he (the French Admiral) was to blame ; he has expiated his faults by a glorious death. The destinies (adds he) have been desirous to prove on this occasion, as on many others, that if they grant to us a decided preponderance on land, they have given the empire of the seas to our rivals.”

Disappointed in his wish to penetrate into India, in consequence of the lateness of the season, the opposition of the Mamalukes, and the still fiercer resistance of the Bedouin Arabs, the French General determined to extend his authority, and consolidate his power in Egypt. With this view, he is said to have availed himself of the religious prejudices* of the inhabitants to gain their esteem ; he has also employed other means, that speak feelingly to the hearts of all men, for he has rescued the Cophts from slavery, and divided the paternal inheritance among the surviving children, instead of permitting it, as heretofore, to be claimed by the Grand Signor, and devoured by his subordinate officers.

By way of striking their senses with awe, on the 1st Ventose, he celebrated the seventh anniversary of the Republic with uncommon magnificence. At

* If we are to believe some of his countrymen, he affects the oriental dress, pretends a great respect for the Koran, and is termed by the natives ALI-BUONAPARTE.

Alexandria, the garrison assembled at the "pillar of Pompey," on that occasion decorated with the *tri-coloured cockade*; and in the evening "Cleopatra's needle" was illuminated.

At Cairo, a pyramid was erected in the public square, the seven faces of which contained the names of such of the seven divisions as had fallen in battle, while the troops in Upper Egypt celebrated the event on "the ruins of Thebes!"

Such hitherto have been the principal features of an expedition which a *Minister of this country has termed "frantic," and which, on the first view, assuredly bears a near resemblance to the crusades of the middle ages. The peaceable possession of Egypt would, however, procure to France, by means of an easy navigation, most, if not all, the commodities she has hitherto obtained by distant and tedious voyages to the regions situated within the tropics. The commodities of India might, in time, be also circulated once more throughout Europe, by means of this grand *entrepôt*, while the stream of riches that flows from Asia to England could perhaps be intercepted, and the latter receive a deadly wound in the extremities of her empire.

But what, on the other hand, has not Buonaparte hazarded by this romantic expedition? He who subdued Venice, conferred a new form of government on Genoa, struck the triple crown from the head of Pius VI., made Sardinia a kingdom only by courtesy, restored Corsica to France, overthrew five Austrian

* Mr. Pitt.

armies in succession, and taught even an Emperor to tremble beneath his diadem? We now behold him, with his fleet destroyed, his army exposed to sickness, obliged to fight for every inch of territory, assailed by the hordes of the desert, with the mouth of the Nile blocked up, and nearly confined, if we are to believe report, to the scanty territory of the Delta!

Is this an Alexander, laying down plans for the benefit of posterity, and subduing savage nations, in order to accomplish his projects—or is it Charles XII. blasting all his laurels, by listening to the perfidious counsels of Masseppa, and wandering like a fugitive, rather than a conqueror, among the Cossacks of the Ukraine?

As to his person, Buonaparte is of small stature, but admirably proportioned. He is of a spare habit of body, yet robust, and calculated to undergo the greatest fatigues. His complexion, like that of all the males of southern climate, is olive; his eyes large and black, his chin prominent, the lower part of his face thin, and his forehead square and projecting. The large whole length Italian print, published in London by *Test. lini*, exhibits a good likeness; but the best portrait ever taken of him was one painted at Verona, in consequence of the solicitations of an English artist, who applied to him for this purpose, by means of a letter from a relation, now in London.

In respect to his mind, he possesses uncommon attainments. He converses freely, and without pedantry, on all subjects, and writes and speaks with fluency and eloquence. Above all things, he has attempted,
and

and in a great measure obtained, the mastery over his passions. He is abstemious at his meals, and was never seen, in the slightest degree, intoxicated; he possesses many friends, but has no minions; and preserves an inviolable secrecy, by means of a rigorous silence, far better than other men do by a loquacious hypocrisy.

His mother, the beautiful Lætitia Buonaparte, is still alive, as are also two of his sisters, one of whom is just married to a distinguished Frenchman. They were lately taken prisoners by an English armed vessel, during their passage from France to Corsica, but have been restored to their country and their friends.

GENERAL ANGERSAU.

It was once said of a man, as it is still of a horse, that in order to be good for any thing, he must be of some particular *strain* or *breed*. What the Arabian cross or mixture is to the one, nobility was considered to be to the other, and heroes were supposed to be derived exclusively from that class! What contributed not a little to support this chimera, was the circumstance of most of the armies of Europe being officered by the nobles only.

This, however, is one of the many ridiculous and degrading illusions dispelled by the French Revolution. Jourdan and Hoche are *roturiers*, or descendants of the *mobility*; and Dumouriez and Buonaparte would scarcely have been considered as gentlemen under the old government.

Angersau, siding with the people, to whom he ap-

pertains by birth—for he is the son of a petty Parisian tradesman—suddenly rose to the rank of General. He has often distinguished himself in the Republican ranks, and of late acquired great celebrity in Italy, where he commanded one of the wings of Buonaparte's army—of that army that has annihilated so many Austrian ones!

Angersau served in a subordinate situation in a Neapolitan regiment of Epirots, until 1787, when he actually settled as a fencing-master in the capital of the Two Sicilies. In 1792, he was banished, along with the rest of his countrymen. On this he repaired to the army of Italy, and became a volunteer. Passing through all the intermediate steps, he has at length risen to the rank of General of Division. He is not a mere soldier; for, after acting as a political missionary in Italy, he concerted, with the friends of Liberty in that country, on the best means of facilitating the entrance and progress of the French army. He is now about forty-five or forty-six years of age.

“He is a low fellow! I actually knew him a fencing-master!” exclaimed an Italian *Signora*, on hearing of the battle of Lodi—“This same Angersau taught my son!”

“I hope your son will follow the examples of so great a master,” replies a Frenchman—“he will then have something of the *ancient Roman* in him!”

“He was nothing more than a drummer at Naples,” cried a pert Sicilian. “Ah! this man,” rejoins the lively Parisian—“seems to have been destined to *make a noise*, I perceive, from his very infancy!!!”

No

No sooner had the glad tidings of the capture of Mantua reached the capital, than the elder Angereau, who is an honest grocer, was complimented on the valour and talents of his son. A fraternal banquet was prepared to celebrate the great event. At the age of seventy five, the father of the victorious General was placed in the seat of honour at a table covered with an elegant repast, and a wreath of laurel, adorned with a three-coloured ribband, was presented to him, in the name of an applauding country.

Thus, to honour an aged parent, was the most delicate compliment that could be paid to an affectionate son !

*“ Les hommes sont égaux ; ce n'est point la naissance,
C'est la seule vertu qui fait leur différence.”* VOLTAIRE.

Angereau, on his return to France, enjoyed the confidence of the *majority* of the Directory, and was accordingly employed by them in order to bring about the Fructidorian Revolution. On that memorable occasion, Barras, La Reveillere, and Rewbell, assumed the command of the capital, and appointed this general their lieutenant.

He accordingly marched to the Thuilleries, with a chosen body of men, and summoned the grenadiers composing the guard of the Legislative Body. Instead of opposing, they received him with open arms, and formed a line for his passage. On this, the gates of the Assembly were forced, and the real or pretended conspirators arrested by this intrepid man, who assuredly staked his life on the event of the contest.

The success of this day, as may be easily supposed,

posed, soon led to new preferment. Angereau was accordingly appointed Commander in Chief of the French army on the frontiers of Spain, with a view, as was then thought, to penetrate into Portugal, and arrived at Perpignan on the 27th of February, 1798. On this occasion, the Government testified its approbation in the following terms :

“ The Executive Directory depends with full confidence on the result of the operations of General Angereau in his new and important mission. After having served the Republic with so much glory and success, he must daily acquire fresh claims to national gratitude.”

RUSCA,

Who was bred a physician, could not withstand that revolutionary ardour which has lately been inspired into so many youthful bosoms.

He was born at *Dolce Aqua*, a village on the *Riviera*, or coast of Genoa, subject to the King of Sardinia. Having expressed himself in such a manner as to give umbrage to a suspicious court, he was exiled by the Piedmontese government, at the beginning of the Revolution.

On this he joined the French army; in consequence of which, his small patrimony was confiscated, and his assassination encouraged, by the offer of a sum of money for his head.

Proscribed in one country, and adopted by another, Rusca, from that moment, considered himself as a Frenchman. He accordingly served with such
extraordinary

extraordinary bravery and fidelity in the army of Italy, that the popular society of Nice presented him with a sword, and petitioned the representatives of the people that he might be appointed a General of Brigade, and employed with the army of the Pyrennées.

On the conclusion of the peace with Spain, he returned to Italy, and was appointed Commandant of Leghorn, which he lately occupied with a body of French troops.

GENERAL MASSENA.

No nation in Europe has experienced a greater degree of degeneracy than the inhabitants of modern Italy. Does this proceed from superstition that degrades? tyranny that humbles and debases? or an unmanly refinement, that bursts into extacies at the warblings of a *castrato*, unmans the sex, in order to charm the ear, and cuts off the source of population, to gratify the momentary longings of a debauched appetite?

It has been asserted by a respectable traveller, that the descendants of a people who once enriched the world with science and the arts, and afforded the noblest monuments of human virtue and human skill, notwithstanding the cruel yoke of the Mussulmans, still call to mind the greatness of their ancestors. We are assured, they not unfrequently hint that they are sprung from those Greeks who were no less memorable in arts than arms, and not only
recapitulate

recapitulate the feats of their progenitors, but actually point out the scenes of their glory.

Notwithstanding appearances, this is precisely the case, and perhaps in a still greater degree with the descendants of the ancient Romans. Among them, too, first arose the free and independent little commonwealths of modern Europe; and the seeds of early liberty have not yet been entirely choked by the triple servitude of civil, religious, and foreign domination. In addition to this, the foundations of a new Republic have lately been laid in a classic soil; and notwithstanding they are still kept in thralldom by their *liberators*, the people may at some future day bethink themselves of the Brutuses, the Catos, and the Scipios of antiquity.

Massena is now about thirty-seven years of age. He was born at Nice, at a period when it appertained to the House of Savoy, into whose service he entered at an early period of life. The reproach is not peculiar to the court of Turin, that, without *protection*, merit cannot make any progress there. How many officers of talents in our own country have beheld the bastard or legitimate son of a lord taking rank and precedence of them, in consequence of superior interest? It was well observed by an English subaltern, "that, in order to attain a rapid promotion, he would rather be backed by a *rotten borough*, than possess the military talents of Turenne!"

Massena became an Ensign in the Sardinian army; and an ensign he might have remained to this moment, had he chosen to continue in that service. But
a better

a better destiny awaited him, and in pursuit of that, he threw up his commission; and, entering into a French legion, soon distinguished himself.

It was at the capture of Sospello that he first developed his military talents; and it was entirely owing to him, that Saorgio, in the campaign of 1794, yielded to the Republican arms. For this service he was rewarded with the rank of General of Division.

No sooner was Buonaparte appointed to the command of the army of Italy, than the local knowledge, intrepidity, and experience of Massena, pointed him out as an able officer, capable of seconding his views, and advancing his progress. We accordingly find him, in the spring of 1796, acting a brilliant part, under the direction of that celebrated warrior, at the battles of Montenotte and Monte Lezino, against the Sardinian army, in which he had formerly served as an obscure subaltern.

He was also present at the successive actions of Millesimo, Dego, Mondovi, and Cossaria; in all which he distinguished himself by the impetuous valour with which he attacked the armies under Proveyra and Beaulieu. He was no less successful against Wurmser, and contributed not a little to the capture of Mantua.

After being the companion of the glory, he acted as the proxy of his General; in whose name he repaired to Paris, in order to concert with the Directory relative to the preliminaries of peace, and the removal of the victorious armies of the Republic from
from

from such of the conquered provinces as were to be restored to Austria.

Massena, since that period, has taken a very active part in the organization of the Roman Republic. It was he who nominated the Constituted Authorities, and *installed* the * Consulate in its authority.

“The French Republic,” says he, in a proclamation issued on this occasion, “renounces the right of conquest which appertains to it over the territories of Rome, and proclaims the establishment and independence of the Roman Republic.

“France had cruel injuries to revenge; but she will be avenged in a manner worthy of herself, provided the Roman people be but happy and free.—The liberty and property of a nation can only be guaranteed by a constitution: the Executive Directory of the French Republic offers one to the Roman People. By this offer, the Republic shields them from the political convulsions and factions which continually arise in a state when deficient in this point; and the Romans, at her call, shall enter on that career of liberty, and practice of virtue, which immortalized their ancestors.”

Respect for historical truth will not permit the concealment, that this General has been accused of speculation, and removed from his command, in consequence of complaints from the army, accusing him

* This is the title given to the Directory, by way of flattering the vanity of the people, with the revival of an old Roman appellation. For the same reason, the greater council is termed the *Tribune*, and the less, the *Senate*.

of having permitted the inhabitants of Rome to be plundered and oppressed. This event reflects infinite disgrace on the Commander, but it at the same time does honour to the troops who denounced him.

THE ABBE DE LILLE.

Montannier de Lille, author of "Les Jardins," and translator of the Georgics, has been called "Virgil de Lille" by his own countrymen. In his youth, he was admitted into, and initiated in, the *inferior* orders of the Catholic church, with a view of obtaining a rich Abbey, but it was never intended that he should become a priest. He accordingly aimed to procure *revenue*, not *celebrity*, from the church: he however continued to acquire the reputation of being one of the best didactic poets in Europe.

When the Duke de Choiseul Gouffier repaired to Constantinople, the Abbé accompanied him thither, and amused his friends by a series of very interesting letters, which appeared from time to time in the French periodical works of that day.

At the convocation of the States-General, he possessed a most ample income; for his Abbey, his little paternal estate, his *honoraria* as a professor in the College of France, and a member of the Academy, must have produced him about 30,000 livres *per annum*. In consequence of the revolution that soon after ensued, his whole fortune did not exceed the yearly sum of 40l. sterling! This circumstance alone, exposed M. de Lille to the suspicion of being an *Aristocrat*, but he has never evinced the least aver-
sion

sion to the Republican regimen, although he blamed his friends Herault Sechelles, and Boissy d'Anglas, for plunging into the revolutionary vortex.

It is not a little extraordinary, that while the heads of so many famous literary men fell under the guillotine, that of de Lille was secured, and shielded by the ægis of despotism, for both Robespierre and Chaumette took him under their protection. The latter repeatedly advised him to change his dress, which was by far too spruce for the times, and might subject him to a variety of mortifications, while the former employed him to write a *hymn for the festival of the Supreme Being.

In the course of the year 1794, de Lille left Paris, and retired to St. Diez, in the department of Vosges, whence he repaired to Lupac, near Monteville. In the summer of 1796, he returned to the capital, but he did not remain long there.

The Revolutionists, on the formation of the National Institute, were narrow-minded enough to make enquiries, as well into the *civism*, as the talents of the candidates. In consequence of this, La Harpe, the ex-Abbé Suard, &c. were excluded, and the admission of the poet de Lille, notwithstanding his acknowledged talents, became problematical. Actuated by a suspicion of the event, he determined to avoid the supposed disgrace, by declining the nomination, and accordingly addressed a letter to this purpose to the President.

* This, in the language of the Royalists, “remua même la canaille du salut public.”

At the same time, he solicited the Directory for leave to retire from France, "in order to finish his career, in peace and obscurity, in a foreign country." This demand being immediately complied with, he repaired to Basil in Switzerland, where he has lately published his poem, entitled, "L'homme des Champs," in which he happily describes his own situation, in the following lines :

"Heureux qui dans le sein de ses vieux domestiques
Se dérobe au fracas des tempêtes publiques,
Et dans un doux abri trompant tous les regards,
Cultive ses jardins, les vertus et les arts !

"Tel, quand des triumvirs la main ensanglantée
Disputait les lambeaux de Rome épouvantée,
Virgile, des partis laissant rouler les flots,
Du nom d'Amaryllis enchantait les échos.
Comme lui je n'eus point un champ de mes ayeux,
Et le peu que j'avois je l'abandonne aux dieux.
Mais, comme lui, fuyant les discordes civiles,
J'échappe dans les bois au tumulte des villes.
Vous donc qui prétendiez, profanant ma retraite,
En intrigant d'état transformer un poëte,
Epargnez à ma muse un regard indiscret.
De son heureux loisir respecter le secret.
Auguste triomphant pour Virgile fut juste :
J'imitai le Poëte, imitez donc Auguste :
Et laissez moi sans nom, sans fortune et sans fers
Rêver au bruit des eaux, de la lyre et des vers."

In addition to his other works, he has *meditated* a poem on the "Imagination ;" for, what is singular enough, this has never as yet been committed to paper. The truth is, that the Abbé, relying on his extraordinary memory, never copies out any of his verses, until they are about to be printed*.

The

* *Le plus bel épisode de son poëme sur l'imagination, dont le sujet est l'aventure du célèbre peintre, Robert, perdu pendant quelques heures sans guide & sans flambeau dans les immenses souterrains nommés*

The following translation from one of the poets of our own nation, will convey some idea of the Abbé's versification :

TRADUCTION DE L'ÉPÎTRE DE POPE.

“ Ferme la porte, Jean, et qu'on me barricade,
Qu'on mette les verroux; dis que je suis malade,
Dis que je suis mourant, dis que je ne suis plus.
Dieux ! quel flots de rimeurs, près d'ici repandus !
Mon œil épouvanté, croit voir sur cette place
Tout l'hôpital des fous, ou bien tout le Parnasse.

“ Les vois-tu, récitant, courant en furieux,
Un papier dans les mains, & le feu dans les yeux ?
Contre ce vil essaim qui fourmille sans cesse,
Quel rempart assez sûr, quelle ombre assez épaisse ?
Il m'attaque par terre, il m'assiège par eau,
Se glisse dans ma grotte, investit mon berceau,
Inonde mes bosquets, borde mon avenue,
Me poursuit dans l'église & m'atteint dans la rue ;
Ou, chassé par la faim, de son noir galetas,
M'aborde—JUSTMENT à l'heure du repas.”

EPISTLE TO DR. ARBUTHNOT.

“ Shut, shut the door, good John ! fatigu'd, I said ;
Tie up the knocker, say I'm sick, I'm dead.
The dog-star rages ! nay, 'tis past a doubt
All Bedlam or Parnassus is let out :
Fire in each eye, and papers in each hand,
They rave, recite, and madden round the land.

“ What walls can guard me, or what shades can hide ?
They pierce my thickets, thro' my grot they glide ;
By land, by water, they renew the charge,
They stop the chariot, and they board the barge ;
No place is sacred ; not the church is free ;
E'en Sunday shines no Sabbath-day to me :
Then from the Mint walks forth the man of rhyme,
Happy to catch me just at dinner time.”

“ Est-il un vil rimeur dont la verve grossière
Exhale en plats écrits les vapeurs de la bierre ;

nommés les CATACOMBES DE ROME. Ce poëme n'est point imprimé ; si l'auteur eût péri, nous perdions à la fois & le poëte & l'ouvrage, car, Monf. l'Abbé de Lille se reposant sur son excellente mémoire n'écrit jamais les vers qu'il compose que lorsqu'il veut les livrer à l'impression.”—Note by Madame de GENLIS.

Est-il un grand seigneur, auteur de petit vers,
Un poëte en jupeau, qui rime de travers,
Un clerc encore poudreux, qui détecteur du code,
Sache, au lieu d'un contrat, me griffonner une ode,
Un fou, qui renfermé sans encie & sans papier,
Ait charbonné de vers les murs de son grenier ?
Tout viennent m'affailler dans leurs fureurs étranges,
Outrés de ma critique ou fiers de mes louanges.

“ *Arthur* voit-il ses fils negliger le barreau ?
Ce sont mes maudits vers qui troublent leur cerveau.
Et le pauvre Cornus trahi parce qu'il aime,
S'en prend aux beaux esprits, à ma muse, à moi-meme, &c.

“ Is there a person much bemus'd in beer,
A maudlin poetess, a rhyming peer,
A clerk foredoom'd his father's soul to cross,
Who pens a stanza when he should engross ?
Is there who, lock'd from ink and paper, scrawls
With desp'rate charcoal round his darken'd walls ?
All fly to 'Twit'nam, and in humble strain
App'ly to me to keep them, mad or vain.

“ *Arthur*, whose giddy son neglects the laws,
Imputes to me, and my damn'd works, the cause :
Poor Cornus sees his frantic wife elope,
And curses wit, and poetry, and Pope.”

M. de Lille is nearly sixty years of age, and both short and ugly. He is, however, mild and good tempered, very agreeable in conversation, simple in his manners, and exceedingly beloved by the ladies*.

ROGER DE LILLE,

Nephew to the Abbé of the same name, like the bards of old, is at once a poet and a musician ; and in consequence of a rare union of both characters, he was enabled to compose both the music and the words of the *Marseillois* hymn, which by connecting his name with the French Revolution, will in all probability render it immortal.

* “ *L'enfant gâté de toutes les dames.*”

During the reign of Robespierre, he was arrested and kept in confinement for a considerable time. This circumstance was noticed with just indignation by Gregoire, in his celebrated report on "Vandalism," who terms it an eternal disgrace on the Decemvirate:

"On a fait languir dans les prisons Duffault, le premier chirurgien de l'Europe; l'excellent traducteur d'Homer, Bitaubé, Roger de Lille, qui par son hymne à jamais célèbre des Marseillois, a donné peut-être deux cents mille hommes à nos armées *."

Young de Lille entered the army early in the Revolution, and soon obtained the rank of Colonel: he is now a Major-General.

NECKER,

A native of Geneva, and son of a professor there, was first a clerk, then a banker in Paris†. This celebrated man was destined to rise from the desk of a counting-house, to one of the highest employments in Europe—that of Minister of Finance to the French Monarchy. Vanity, egotism, ostenta-

* They caused to languish in prison, Duffault, the first surgeon in Europe; Bataubé, the excellent translator of Homer; and Roger de Lille, who by his ever-memorable hymn of the *Marseillois*, has perhaps added two hundred thousand men to our armies.

† At an early period of life, he was taken into the banking-house of the late Mr. J. Thelluson of Geneva, then settled in Paris, and became partner with his son, under the firm of Thelluson and Necker.

tion—these are said to be his failings ; but, on the other hand, a good husband, a good father, a good citizen—he is in possession of all the public and private virtues. If he evinces less ability than his rival Calonne, be it remembered, that he can boast of more integrity. Suspicion has never blasted his fair fame with the charge of unaccounted millions*. A man of business in office, a philosopher in disgrace—he never allowed himself to be elevated or depressed, either by the smiles or frowns of a king ; he still remembered that he was a citizen of Geneva !

He, however, experienced a variety of mortifications, for which he indemnified himself, perhaps, by the hope of proving serviceable to mankind.—Old Maurepas never allowed him to sit in his presence !

To the preponderance of the *Tiers Etat*, produced entirely by his means, France is indebted for her Revolution ; but for this, the nation would have relapsed into servitude, and the crown (being *hors de page*) into despotism. He was once banished, and once recalled from the country of his adoption ; the last, perhaps, final retreat, was voluntary on his part.

Necker has written on religion, morals, finance, and government. His late wife, formerly Mademoiselle Curchod, the daughter of a Curé of the reformed religion, was greatly admired by Gib-

* Garat indeed observes, that Salles accused him of having robbed the treasury while in office, but the charge is too vague and too ridiculous to be attended to.

bon*, the historian, about thirty years since; but his love, which does not appear to have been very violent, easily yielded to the admonitions of parental prudence. She is allowed to have been a most amiable and virtuous woman.

His daughter, Madame de Stael, is married to the Minister Plénipotentiary from Sweden to the French Republic. She has written many political tracts, and gave some good advice to the coalesced powers, about eighteen months since; but on her return to Paris, she was denounced by Legendre, as entertaining views hostile to the commonwealth. This put an end for some time to her political speculations; for the Court of Sweden finds its neutrality too profitable to risk it by any dispute with the French Republic.

M. Necker has lately published a work, in four volumes, on the French Revolution; and, perhaps, no man of the present day has written more than himself.

Notwithstanding his uninterrupted struggles for celebrity, few have proved more unfortunate in this respect; for, while treated with the most mortifying contempt by the Republicans, he is detested by the Royalists, who, with their accustomed moderation, affect to consider him sometimes as a conspirator, and sometimes as a *charlatan* †.

From

* Mr. G. resided for a considerable time at the house of her father, by whom he was educated. Madame Necker's posthumous works have been lately published at Paris.

† It is thus that a late writer describes the origin of his political greatness:

“ M. Necker,

From the multitude of satirical verses, written against him, the following couplet is selected, rather on account of its wit than truth.

M. NECKER.

“ Agioteur adroit, ministre sans moyen

“ De rien il fit d’or, et d’un empire rien.”

MARIE ANNE CHARLOTTE CORDAY,

Born at Saturnin, in the department of Orne, and whose name is rendered illustrious as the assassin of the monster Marat, was the daughter of a man attached by a place to the court.* The *demoiselle* Corday was zealous for freedom: rich, young, beautiful—a woman—she was, nevertheless, a Republican. An enthusiast, but not a fanatic; she possessed the warmth of the one character, without the extravagance of the other. At the place of execution, she uttered not a single word; her face still possessed an

“ M. Necker devoit sa place de Directeur-des-Finances à l'intrigant Marquis de Pezay, à qui il fournissoit de l'argent pour entretenir sa correspondance avec le roi; place où n'auroient jamais pu le porter, ni les ouvrages qu'il composa sur ce sujet, ni l'espèce de réputation qu'il avoit tâché d'acquérir parmi les gens-des-lettres.”

* Jaques Adrian de Corday married Mary Renée Adelaide de Belleau, Lady of la Motte, in the parish of Courtone, near Orbec; and left four sons and four daughters.

The third of the sons, was James Francis de Corday, sieur d'Ermont, who married Mary Carola Gautier des Antiers. They had four sons, who, it is believed, at this time are emigrants, and two daughters; one of whom was the for-ever celebrated Charlotte Corday. Her father is still living in the town of Argentan, in the department of l'Orne.

heroic calmness ; she seemed conscious of future glory, and approaching happiness ! Although silent, her gesticulations were eloquently impressive ; for she frequently placed her hand on her heart, and seemed to say—" I rejoice in having exterminated a monster ! " *

Brutus and Corday both equally struck for Liberty ; but, alas ! neither of them was so happy as to secure it. The execution of Robespierre, however, in the issue, effected, for modern France, what the punishment of Anthony, and the banishment of Octavius, could not, perhaps, have produced in degenerate Rome.

To this woman, Greece would have erected statues, Rome temples : France may some day insert her name in the calendar of her martyrs—the ancients would have placed her among their gods !

The following is a Translation of a Letter from Marie Anne Victoire Charlotte Corday, to her Father. Written on the evening before her Trial.

" From the prison of the Conciergerie, in the apartment lately occupied by the Deputy Brissot.

" My dear and respected Father, July 16, 1793.

" Peace is about to reign in my beloved native country, for Marat is no more !

" Be comforted, and bury my memory in eternal oblivion.

" I am to be tried to-morrow, the 17th, at seven o'clock in the morning.

" I have lived long enough, as I have achieved a glorious exploit.

* Charlotte Corday, n'as pas produit le plus léger mouvement dans une ville qui ne méritoit pas qu'elle la délivrât d'un monstre."—*Madame Roland, Appel. 3me. Part.*

“ I put you under the protection of Barbaroux and his colleagues, in case you should be molested.

“ Let not my family blush at my fate; for, remember, according to Voltaire—

‘ That crimes beget disgrace, and not the scaffold.’

“ Your affectionate daughter,

MARIE ANNE VICTOIRE CHARLOTTE CORDAY.”*

LUX.

* The figure and conduct of Charlotte Corday, at and during her trial before the Revolutionary Tribunal, impressed all the beholders with respectful awe. The Public Accuser, having asked her the reason why she had committed the bold act, for which she was arraigned? the following reply was delivered with a dignified calmness:

“ I came to Paris, on purpose to acquire glory by it; to deliver my country from an aspiring monster, and to stop the wounds his audacious hands had opened.”

PUB. ACCUS. “ Are you not ashamed to become a common criminal and be tried for assassination?”

MAD. CORDAY. “ It is a crime to have committed murder; but no disgrace to ascend the scaffold for this act!”

PUB. ACCUS. “ Do you recognize this sanguinary dagger?”

MAD. CORDAY. “ I myself purchased it in the *Palais Royal*, and remember it well; it is the same I plunged to his heart, and am satisfied.”

The scene which her execution presented was awful beyond description. The heroic victim ascended the scaffold with intrepidity, pulled off her cap and handkerchief, and only recoiled when the executioner advanced in order to bind her legs.

Imagining that some indignity was about to be offered, she exclaimed: “ Are you so base as to expose me here?” but on being informed of his intentions, she bid him proceed.

The inhuman monster, after the horrid ceremony, exhibited her head to the people, and struck it twice on the cheek! Even the Revolutionary Tribunal was shocked with this enormity,

LUX.

Adam Lux was one of the commissioners from Mayence, after that Imperial city had fallen into the hands of the French, and is only mentioned here, as connected with the heroine, who forms the subject of the foregoing article.

The death of Marat, the seizure of Marie-Anne-Charlotte-Corday, and the dignified deportment of that celebrated female, had made a deep impression on his mind. Happening to cross the street, through which she was dragged to the place of execution, he beheld her for the first time—and what has not been surpassed, nay, not equalled, in the fictions of romance—he actually became enamoured with the beautiful victim.

As if enamoured of the *guillotine* also, a few days afterwards he published a pamphlet, in which he proposed to raise a statue to her honour, on the pedestal of which was to be inscribed——

“GREATER THAN BRUTUS!”

He, at the same time, invoked the shade of his departed mistress, while wandering through the groves of Elysium, and holding converse with those great personages, who had devoted themselves to death in order to serve their country.

and condemned the executioner to twelve years imprisonment in irons.

The corpse was buried in the church-yard of St. Magdelaine, near the grave of Louis XVI. she having suffered in the same section with that Monarch.

As

As may be easily supposed, these proceedings on the part of Adam Lux, irritated the victorious tyrants, and he was accordingly carried to the prison of *La Force*, where he remained some time. He scorned however to intercede for mercy! The instrument which had severed the head from the body of Charlotte Corday, became in his eyes an altar, on which he also aspired to be sacrificed; and he was accordingly gratified in his wishes, for he suffered, as he had wished, by the very *same* guillotine, a few weeks after.

MADAME LAFAYETTE.

This lady, the wife of a man whose history is blended with two important Revolutions, was a Marchioness before the late changes in France: the family name of her husband was also both spelled and pronounced differently, being then *De la Fayette*; but the *de* being a mark of nobility, as having a feudal allusion—the French term it a *nome de terre*—it was, of course, omitted on the extinction of titles.

Mad. Lafayette is an eminent instance of the instability of greatness, the mutability of fortune, and the inefficacy of wealth. Descended from an ancient lineage,* united to an amiable and illustrious husband, who possessed estates in Europe, America, and the West Indies; she, nevertheless, has not been exempt from the most bitter calamities that can afflict suffering humanity.

When Lafayette resisted the commands of the sole

* She is a Noailles, and niece to the Prince de Poix.

remaining legitimate power in France, his “widowed wife” was arrested. Under the despotism of Robespierre, she escaped death only by a miracle—part of her family was actually immolated to his vengeance—but, what to some will appear more terrible, she experienced an unremitting captivity of fifteen months; during which she suffered all the horrors of a close confinement, being immured within four walls, subjected to a scanty and precarious diet, secluded from her children, and prohibited even from the light of heaven.

On the death of the tyrant, the voice of humanity was once more heard, and she was liberated, and restored to the arms of her afflicted daughters. But she was a wife as well as a mother, and her beloved husband was still in bondage! For he who had endeavoured to avert the execution of Louis XVI.—such is the gratitude of courts—was languishing in an Austrian prison!

She accordingly repaired to Hamburgh, accompanied by her children only; for she had not wealth sufficient to hire a single domestic; and she possesses a lofty spirit of independence, which taught her to reject pecuniary assistance, even from her few remaining friends. As soon as her health was a little restored, she set off for Vienna, and prostrated herself at the feet of the Emperor.

Francis III. is in the flower of his youth. The chilling hand of age has not yet rendered him morose; and, surely, *victory* cannot have blunted his feelings, and made him at once haughty and insensible:

ble!—No! no! there is not a prince of his house, from the obscure Count de Hapsburg of a former period, to the late powerful tenant of the Imperial diadem, who has had more occasion to feel that he is but a *man*.

Weeping beauty did not supplicate in vain; the German Monarch raised her from her lowly posture, and promised better days. With his permission, she flew on the wings of affection; and, strengthened by conjugal love, knocked at the gate of the fortress that confined her dearly beloved husband, whose speedy deliverance (vain idea!) she hoped instantly to announce.

The massive bolts of the dungeon give way; the grating hinges of the iron doors pierce the ears; she and her virgin daughters are eyed, searched, rifled, by an odious and horrible gaoler; and those who, but a moment before, deemed themselves deliverers, are now captives!

Reclining in the bottom of thy dungeon, these tears cannot be seen, these sighs cannot be heard; nor can the quick decay of youth and beauty, cankered in the bloom, and dissolving amidst the horrors of a German prison, be contemplated. But the heart of sympathy throbs for you, ye lovely mourners! the indignation of mankind is aroused; the present age shudders at your unmerited sufferings; and posterity will shed a generous tear at their recital. Anguish may not yet rend the bosoms of your persecutors, but a dreadful *futurity* waits them; and, were it possible to escape the scourge of offended Heaven,

they will yet experience all the vengeance of indignant history!*

BABŒUF.

Revolutions produce extraordinary characters, and elevate sometimes poor, and sometimes worthless men, to the highest and most eminent situations.

A proverb well known to the aristocracy of every country, although illiberal, and in general false, is nevertheless, on some particular occasions, true:—“When the pot boils, the *scum* gets to the top.” Colonel Pride, born in a church-porch, is a familiar instance of the justice of this, in our own history; and Babœuf, perhaps, in that of France. The first, who was bred a drayman, actually dissolved that house of commons which bridled Europe, and punished its own king; the second, who under the *old government* is said to have worn a shoulder-knot, was but lately the leader of a formidable conspiracy, whose object is said to have been to murder the Directory, dissolve the Legislature, and new-model France!

Babœuf is a native of one of the distant provinces: from a footman he became clerk to a *procureur*; and from that rose to be an attorney. His wife, at the same time, accompanied him from the kitchen to the parlour; and as she had shared in his indigence, so she very justly partook of his prosperity. He prac-

* The above article was written before the release of the family of Lafayette, from a bondage that had excited the indignation of all Europe, and of which the *secret motive* still remains unknown.

tified in the country for some time ; and, if we are to give credit to his enemies, exhibited all the little tricks of a low petty fogger. Certain it is, however, that he was fitted, by a series of imprisonments, and a long and intimate acquaintance with all the minute particulars of the Revolution, both to act and to suffer ; and there cannot be a doubt, but that he must have possessed some extraordinary talents, either in council or in action ; or else it is not to be supposed, that such men as Drouet, Robert Lindet, Antonelle, and Felix Lepelletier, would have chosen him for their leader.

Babœuf suffered a long confinement, without being put on his defence. He was, however, at length tried in great form before the High Court at Vendôme, May 26th, 1797, and executed next day. The candid and equitable proceedings of the Court on this occasion impressed the world for some time with a favourable idea of the security afforded by the new constitution to the life of a French citizen.

M. VALENCE,

Rose to the rank of Lieutenant-general. His forehead is still scarred with wounds ; one of which, inflicted by an oblique stroke of an Austrian hussar's scymitar, peeled off the skin in such a manner, as to roll it like a bandage over his eyes. This occurred when he was charging the enemy, at the head of a detachment of cavalry.

He is a brave soldier ; and, although the actions of Pichegru and Jourdan have obliterated, in some

degree, those of Dumouriez and Valence, the two latter must be allowed to have formed the troops that have since acquired the former most, if not all, their glory. It was in the same manner that Philip prepared the victories of Alexander.

In consequence of one of those extraordinary changes of fortune, lately become so familiar to us, General Valence is now a farmer. He is married to the niece of Madame Genlis, who at this moment resides along with him, in Danish Holstein, in the neighbourhood of Altona ; and he has cheerfully exchanged the truncheon for the spade !

CHAMPAGNEUX,

Was the editor of one of the threescore newspapers, that imparted the revolutionary stimulus to France.

He is the father of a numerous family ; a man of unimpeached morals ; and was attached to Liberty from principle, at a time, and in a country, when it was not unusual to be so from mere speculation !

Champagneux was selected by Roland, on account of his industry and talents ; and was put by him at the head of the principal division of the home department. In short, during his administration, he became what is termed in England an *Under Secretary of State*, and proved himself worthy of his situation.

CAMUS,

Originally bred to the bar, became a member of the Constituent Assembly, and distinguished himself
by

by his activity in forming a new constitution, which it was fondly hoped would have rendered France free, and made her King adored.

He is another of Roland's *élèves*, and does great credit to his discernment. Soon after the resignation of his friend, he quitted the home department, was elected a member of the Convention, and is now *Archivist* to the present legislature.

He was one of the Deputies delivered over by Dumouriez to, and confined by, the Prince de Cobourg. From an Austrian prison he has been restored to the exercise of his legislative functions,—he is one of the *two-thirds*—and, on the first vacancy, is likely to become member of the Directory; a situation for which he is admirably fitted, both by education and experience.

Camus is, of course, odious to the Royalists, as may be seen from the following satire:

I.

Camus est un très grand Seigneur,
Il achette des terres ;
Quand on devient législateur,
Qu'on fait bien ses affaires !
Il ne fut jamais scrupuleux
Quoi qu'il soit Janséniste,
La France aura pour roi dans peu
Ce fameux Archevêque.

II.

Rien ne peut troubler le repos
De ce savant juriste,
Il sçait mépriser les propos,
En dévot Janséniste :

Il ſçait profiter du moment
 Jamais rien ne l'arrête:
 Il n'a plus beſoin maintenant
 De la boîte à perette.*

III.

Camus eſt altéré de l'or,
 Il peut boire à ſa ſource,
 De la nation la tréſor
 Peut-être ſa reſſource ;
 C'eſt un autre Pérou pour lui
 Il en fait faire uſage,
 Car ſ'il n'aima jamais Louis,
 Il en aime l'image.

VERGNIAUX,

A native of Limoges, and one of the deputies from Bourdeaux, was a moſt able orator ; in ſhort, he was inferior, in point of eloquence, to no man who has appeared in France ſince Mirabeau.

He was a *Girondist* ; and, what is no common praiſe, in point of eloquence, may be placed at the head of the *Gironde*.

Like all the members of that celebrated and unfortune party, he was actuated by a rooted hatred againſt the Houſe of Auſtria, inſpired by a full conviction of its perfidy : and he aſſerted in the Convention, “ that the rupture of the treaty of 1756, was

* *La boîte à perette*, was a box where the Janſeniſt devotees put money, to pay their defenders, patrons, &c. and as Camus was originally a famous counſellor in eccleſiaſtical matters, and known to be a Janſeniſt himſelf, it is ſuppoſed that he knew ſomething of the *boîte à perette*.

as necessary to Europe, as the taking of the Bastille to France.”

It was he who made the memorable report in favour of *suspending*, instead of *dethroning* the King ; and he exposed himself on this occasion not only to the suspicions but the invectives of the inflamed Jacobins, of whom he predicted, “ that they would reign over dead bodies only.” Beholding Marat one day, very active in the Convention, he exclaimed—“ Give that cannibal a goblet of blood—he thirsts after it.”

On the memorable 10th of August, 1792, he occupied the President’s chair ; and conducted himself with an uncommon dignity on that very critical occasion. He was gifted with a happy delivery, and an easy flow of words : this enabled him to speak on all subjects with ease, and without premeditation. But he was both indolent and negligent ; he despised mankind ; yet he loved Liberty, and died for it on a public scaffold, in 1793.

MARAT,

Short in stature, deformed in person, and hideous in face, was born at a little village,* near Neuchâtel, in Switzerland.

This man, or rather this monster, from the very beginning of the Revolution, evinced the most barbarous intentions. It was he who, at an early period of it, and ere any blood had yet been shed, uttered the execrable sentiment—“ That three hun-

* Beaudry.

dred thousand heads must be struck off before Liberty could be established!" This horrid expression, regarded at that time as a prophecy by the infatuated multitude, actually contributed to the assassinations that ensued.

If not the adviser, he was at least the apologist for the massacres of September. On that, and on every other occasion, where there was the least prospect of danger, he disappeared; and is said to have taken refuge in a subterraneous apartment, where he carefully secluded himself, till his own faction prevailed.

His disinterestedness, joined to his sufferings, had endeared him to the Parisians; for he lived in poverty, and was actually tried for his life before one of the tribunals, by which he was acquitted.

By turns the tool of Danton and Robespierre, he lived, as it were, the enemy of the whole human race, and died the victim of a woman's vengeance.*

It is not to be denied, that Marat possessed some abilities, although they were disfigured by presumption, and obscured by passion. Previously to the Re-

* Brissot, in his address to his constituents, considers Marat as a man "whose soul is kneaded up of blood and dirt"—"the disgrace of the Revolution and humanity"—"a wretch, whose unpunished crimes added to the massacres of the second of September have put back the *universal* revolution of mankind for whole ages."

He further adds, that, although "convicted of having preached up royalty, the dictatorship, the abasement of the Convention, the massacre of the Deputies, and a counter-revolution, he still remained unpunished, in spite of the remonstrances of all the departments."

volution, he passed through Switzerland to France, and resided for some time in England. He even distinguished himself as a man of letters, and acquired the reputation of considerable scientific attainments.

His first work was a treatise on "Light," which is acknowledged to possess merit. His next—"A Philosophical Essay on Man; being an Attempt to investigate the Principles and Laws of the reciprocal Influence of the Soul and Body," 2 vols. 8vo. London.

This publication, the second edition of which is now before the writer of this article, has the following motto prefixed to it:

"*Unde animi consuet natura bibendum.*"—Lucret. de Nat. Rer.

It treats——

1. Of the human body, considered as the general organ of sense and motion;
2. Of the human soul, and its faculties;
3. Of the reciprocal influence of the soul and body;
4. Of the influence of organization on the affections.

Marat, on this occasion, appears in the character not only of a metaphysician, but also of an anatomist; and endeavours, by means of this union, to account for the various *phenomena* which had puzzled all preceding philosophers.

As a metaphysician, he tells us that "man, in common with all animals, is composed of two distinct parts, soul and body;" and then adds—"I shall not stay here to prove a truth so well established: should any of my readers entertain the least doubt,

he

he may dispense with reading my work ; it is not for such I write."

As an anatomist, he seems to have built many of his theories on actual experiment ; and appears delighted, when he speaks of " forcing the point of a lancet into a muscle, in order to render it paralytic—dividing a nerve, with a view to produce the same effect—puncturing the heart of *a living animal*, for the purpose of exciting contraction," &c. The following will, perhaps, be esteemed by some a curious passage, as it shews the *decision* with which the author pronounces on a controverted point—

" Anatomists agree, that we must look for the seat of the soul in the head ; but they are not unanimous as to what place it occupies in that part of the body. Some place it in the *pineal gland*, others in the *corpus callosum*, others again in the *cerebrum* ; some in the *cerebellum*, and some in the *meninges*. But of these different opinions, the last only is well-founded ; for, if we trace the nerves to their entrance into the membranes of the brain, we shall find they confound themselves with the *meninges*, and form one simple uniform substance with them.

" Hence, if the nerves only are sensible, and if the sensations are not continued to the soul but by these organs, we plainly perceive that the meninges must be esteemed the seat of the soul. For as these membranes and their productions are the general organs of sensation, and as the soul is at the concurrence of all the sensations of the body, its seat must be in that part where this concurrence appears, *viz.* at the centre of all the organs of sensation : these membranes are this centre.

" Experience likewise daily confirms it : the slightest inflammation of the meninges occasions a delirium, a temporary insanity. The irritation of the nerves, by the fumes of wine from drinking to excess, or by the fumes of tobacco, is followed by the irritation of the meninges, and the loss of reason : this never happens to any other part of the head.

" The substance of the cerebrum and cerebellum may be taken from a living animal, without the soul's being instantly affected ; and though the wounds of the centre of the brain, of the pineal gland, and of the corpus callosum, sometimes injure the functions of the soul, it is not because the seat of the mind is in either of these parts ; but because these parts secrete a fluid which

which is necessary to its operations, and by reason of the irritation which wounds in these parts communicate to the meninges.

“In these membranes Eternal Wisdom has placed the soul, and united it to our organs by imperceptible bands; here it has fixed the seat of thought, of memory, and of the will. vol. i. p. 51.

While the *pia mater* and *dura mater*, are here pronounced to be the long sought for *seat of the soul*, we find the nervous fluid to be “the band which unites the soul and the body;” and learn, that “all voluntary motions are by the instantaneous influx of the nervous fluid into the muscles.”

The organization of the body, we are told, “determines the capacity of the mind, and renders man sagacious or dull, sedate or volatile, and the judgment clear or confused.” It is this which produces “the impetuous Æschylus, the agreeable Horace, the judicious Bacon, the profound Newton, the sagacious Montesquieu; in a word, every man owes the turn and character of his mind to the constitution of his body.”

The following passage, written many years before the event, recalls certain scenes, which afterwards became familiar to the mind of the writer, and at length hardened his heart to an astonishing degree of brutal insensibility——

“Such as are brought up in an excess of delicacy, and a continual habit of indulging themselves in every sort of pleasure, are not affected by the sufferings of others: their sensibility is constantly employed on themselves; they are altogether unconcerned about other beings; and their hearts are steeled against the sufferings of mankind. In proportion as this love of self increases, pity decays, and frequently becomes extinct.

“He who now melts into tears at the distresses of the unfortunate, were he his enemy, instead of alleviating would aggravate his misfortunes.

“Nero,

“ Nero, who wished he had never learned to write when pressed to sign the warrant for a criminal’s execution, could delight in the murder of his enemies. The tyrant, who loudly bewailed the fate of *Hecubea* and *Andromache* as represented on the stage, could hear without emotion the cries of those he had doomed to destruction.

“ Pity is destroyed by the passions; it is even generated in the heart only by prudent reflections, is nourished only by tender sentiments, and is wholly extinguished by the frequency of those objects which ought naturally to confirm it. Let us suppose a man has never heard any one discourse on ideas of justice, goodness, clemency, and generosity: he must remain for ever ignorant of the very names of those virtues.

“ By a frequent attendance at those *bloody feasts*, which in some great cities are given by avarice to idleness, you will soon lose all sense of the strong emotions you had hitherto felt at the cries of mangled animals; in time you will hear them with pleasure, and wait impatiently for a repetition of them. By frequenting such scenes, the soul becomes callous to impressions; is unaffected with the prospect of human miseries, and insensible to to every tender emotion.

“ Do not these reasons prove that pity is not a native of the human breast?” vol. i. p. 144.

We are told, in another part, that a duck will run about several minutes after its head has been separated from its body; that a viper or snake will move a considerable time, and flies a whole day, after undergoing the same operation; but it is added, “ that man, after decapitation,” is scarcely seen to move!

The author had but too many opportunities to realize this last bloody theory by actual experiment; and, with all due respect to anatomists, it would appear that Marat’s heart had become hardened by frequent dissections, and excruciating researches into the organization of animals!

SALICETTI

Is a native of Bastia, in Corsica. His family,
which

which is one of the best in the island, is known and esteemed throughout Italy, on account of his great uncle, *Monfignor Salicetti*, a prelate of distinguished knowledge and learning.

Salicetti was educated at the University of Pisa, and afterwards brought up to the bar ; he even practised for a considerable time in the capital of his native country, but would most probably have lived and died in obscurity, if the French Revolution had not raised him to celebrity. Soon after that event, he was appointed a Deputy to the National Assembly ; and, in that situation, acquired the reputation of a learned civilian, and an excellent patriot ; while, on the other hand, his colleagues, Arena, Buttafouoco, &c. were thought to exhibit many symptoms of contracted minds, and aristocratical prejudices.

On the 5th of December, 1790, the gratitude of his countrymen was evinced, by a deputation to the National Assembly, expressly entrusted with orders to praise the conduct of Salicetti, and blame that of his colleagues. The *côté droit*, or court party, took fire at the language made use of by the Corsican who delivered the speech ; M. de la Chaize moved, that he should be committed to prison ; and the Abbé Maury insisted, that the most exemplary justice should be inflicted on the calumniator. Mirabeau, however, not only palliated, but even applauded the conduct of the deputy ; for he read several original letters from the Corsican representatives, in which
the

the majority of the Assembly was described as an impious, rebellious, and immoral crew.

Soon after his return to his native country, an event which took place on the breaking up of the Legislative Body, Salicetti was elected—in September, 1792—a Deputy to the National Convention, where he exhibited proofs of a decided Republican spirit: he was the sole Corsican Deputy who voted for the execution of Louis XVI. He was also one of the *Mountain*, and acted a considerable part during the reign of Robespierre.

From the autumn of 1793, to the autumn of 1794, he was employed constantly in a public capacity, having been sent successively to the southern provinces, and to the army of Italy. It is to his zeal that the French are indebted for the conquest of Vado and Savona, in the *riviera* of Genoa. Notwithstanding these services, he was exposed to great persecutions during the summer of 1795: for at that period, the odium very justly attached to a few, had with the greatest injustice been transferred to all the Deputies of the Mountain, many of whom were imprisoned in consequence of the popular insurrections of the *fauxbourg* St. Antoine, on the 12th Germinal, and 1 Prairial.

Salicetti was threatened with the same fate; but he avoided it by crossing the territories of the Republic *incognito*, under the disguise of a Genoese merchant, in which assumed character he embarked, without molestation, at Marseilles. From Genoa, where

where he was claimed by the French Minister, Citizen Villard, he repaired to Venice, in which city he resided until the new constitution was accepted, and an amnesty granted.

He returned to Paris during the winter of 1796, and found means to ingratiate himself with the Directory ; in consequence of which he was once more employed as a Commissioner to the army of Italy, in the course of the summer, 1796. In the defence of his native country, against the English, he took an active part, and contributed not a little to the disgraceful evacuation of Corsica.

Salicetti is at present a member of the Council of Five Hundred. He is about forty years of age, tall, well shaped, eloquent, and courageous. He is accused of having acquired a fortune of four millions of French livres, during his mission into Italy ; but a character like his is not likely to be tainted with avarice, which is generally the concomitant of a little and a narrow mind.

MADAME ROLAND.

When some pretended sage of antiquity was labouring hard to disprove the existence of motion, a philosopher of another sect, in all probability a *peripatetic*, arose, and by merely pacing up and down before him, tore to pieces the flimsy web in which he had enveloped himself, and entangled the understanding of his hearers. In like manner, while some of the *sci-disant* sages of modern times are denying all the nobler endowments of human nature to the fair-sex,

sex, a female now and then starts up, and passes along the stage of life, with a display of talents, and a dignity of demeanour, that ought to put these partial reasoners to silence.

Madame Roland was one of these women, of whom, no doubt, the number would be greater, if girls in general received an education like hers. Her father, M. Phlipon, a respectable engraver and jeweller, in Paris, instructed her in the arts analagous to his profession; while her mother, a woman of great prudence, and exquisite sensibility, inculcated the purest principles of virtue, and encouraged the fondness for literature, which she discovered at a very early age. Nor were either pains or masters spared to give her the customary accomplishments of her sex.

The prospect of a fortune, considerable for her station in life, a great share of beauty, and the fame of so many acquirements, attracted a whole host of suitors; and with two of them the negociation was carried to a great length. These were Gardanne, a physician, who has since distinguished himself in the walks of science, and la Blancherie, who needs no particular designation.—Who has not heard of the *Agent General of the correspondence for the advancement of the arts*?* With the son of Æsculapius, the match was broken off by the indiscretion of M. Phlipon. The *Agent General*, after having been rejected by her father on account of his poverty, was finally dismissed by the lady herself, when she found that he

* Madame Roland's Appeal to Impartial Posterity. Part IV.

was so general an admirer of young women of fortune, as to be known, even in the circle of her own acquaintance, by the appellation of the lover of the *eleven thousand virgins*. Neither of these gentlemen had made any serious impression on her heart.—When speaking of the physician, she used to say that her fancy never could figure such a thing as love in a peruke. Her liking for la Blancherie was slight and superficial; but in the works she has left behind her, are repeated indications of a violent passion for some object which she is careful to conceal.

When she had attained her twentieth year, a stroke of the palsy deprived her of her mother. A long and dangerous illness brought on by her grief, was not the only misfortune that ensued from the loss of that amiable woman. Her father, having no longer the same domestic ties, gave himself up to habits of dissipation; formed connexions of an improper kind; and, to support the extraordinary expences they occasioned, engaged in commercial speculations foreign to his art. The event was the very reverse of his expectations. He not only beggared himself, but spent a great part of his daughter's fortune. Alarmed at the prospect of total ruin, she collected all she could from the wreck; and, after making some further sacrifices to a parent's wants, retired to a convent, with an income of five hundred livres a-year. Upon this scanty annuity she subsisted in a state of dignified poverty and solitude, her only amusement and consolation being derived from

books, and her food consisting entirely of aliments of the cheapest and most simple kind.

A few years before, she had become acquainted with M. Roland de la Plâtrière, a man of considerable talents and information, who held the place of Inspector of Manufactures at Amiens*. His esteem and friendship having gradually ripened into love, he demanded her in marriage of her father, when the latter was already fallen into decay. But M. Phlipon, disliking the severity of his manners, rejected his proposal, with more insolence than even his former affluent circumstances would have warranted, and the treaty was broken off. M. Roland, however, renewed his visits and his offer at the grate of the convent; and was accepted, though his age was nearly double that of the lady, who had then completed her five and twentieth year.

Shortly after their marriage, he obtained his removal to Lyons, where he continued several years, passing the winters in town, and the summer months on his paternal estate in the vicinity. At length the Revolution came, and by depriving him of his place of Inspector, brought him to Paris, to devise new means for the improvement of his fortune. There he became acquainted with Brissot, Pétion, and many other political characters; entered into the Jacobin Club under their auspices; and took upon

* He was introduced to her by Mademoiselle Cannet, who, after being educated at the same convent with Mademoiselle Phlipon, returned to her mother at Amiens.

himself a part of the correspondence of that society*.

About two years after, the discontent of the nation at the apparently perfidious conduct of the ministers, having risen to an alarming height, Louis XVI. was prevailed upon to compose an administration of men of known and decided patriotism. In this arrangement Roland was included, the reputation of his talents and civic zeal pointing him out as a fit person to fill the place of Minister of the Interior; but he did not preserve it long.—The King, finding himself strenuously urged by his new counsellors to sanction decrees, of which the object was to stop the irruption of the foreign armies, and to repress the insolence of the nonjuring priests, suddenly dismissed the whole of the ministry, except Dumouriez, whose spirit of intrigue helped to drive his colleagues out of their places, and to keep him for some time longer in his own. This degree sealed the fate of the unfortunate monarch. The discontent of the people, which was in some measure sanctioned by his suspicious conduct, continued to increase, till it burst into a flame, that consumed every remaining vestige of royalty.

Upon the establishment of the Republic, Roland was again appointed Minister of the Interior; and while in that situation, was assisted in his patriotic labours by Madame Roland, as he had been before in his scientific pursuits. Many of the writings,

* It would appear from her posthumous work, that Madame Roland managed this department in his name.

which he published in his official capacity, were the offspring of her mind, and were remarkable for the force and beauty of the style*.

This was made a subject of reproach to the Minister by the faction of the *Mountain*, who hated him on account of his attachment to the *Girondists*, and included him in the proscription that followed the famous 31st of May, when the whole of that party was impeached.

Roland found means to escape from Paris; but his wife, disdaining flight, was apprehended, and conveyed to the *Abbey*. After an imprisonment of several weeks, she was equally surprised and delighted to find herself released, and hastened home with a bounding heart; but scarcely had she set her foot upon the threshold, before she was arrested anew by the satellites of Robespierre, *in the name of the law*, and upon the vague charge of being “a suspicious person.” Full of indignation at this proceeding, she took refuge in the house of her landlord, and prevailed upon his son to carry her claim of protection to the Committee of the Parish, which had declared it would suffer no arbitrary arrests. The performance of this kind office was fatal both to him and to his parent. The young man was shortly after dragged to the scaffold, and the father died of grief!

The interference of the Committee was of no avail to Madame Rolland. After the mortification

* Among many others of less note, she was the author of the famous letter to the King.

of hearing that her enlargement was merely meant to afford a pretence for what was deemed a more legal commitment, she was sent to the convent of St. Pelagie, which had been converted into a gaol.

Madame Roland bore her imprisonment with heroic fortitude; calmly discussing, in a secret correspondence with her friends, the propriety of escaping from the violence of Robespierre's revolutionary monsters by a voluntary death; and composing, in a very few weeks, with an almost incredible facility, two volumes, containing Historical Notices, Anecdotes, and her own private Memoirs.

The title which she gave them of an Appeal to Impartial Posterity, was not a vain one: they will long be a monument of her talents and virtues, and of the ferocious rage of the tyrants by whom she was persecuted. Writers of the first abilities, and of the most practised pens, may envy her the powerful manner in which she so aptly delineates men and manners, the felicity of her expressions, and the energy of her style. Her private memoirs are particularly valuable. No less interesting than the most ingenious works of fancy, they at the same time afford a favourable specimen of the habits and characters of French females, in the middle ranks of life. Our fashionable travellers, who only associated with the two extremes of prostitution in that country—the women of fashion, and the women of the town—have neither entertained, nor given, an idea of the modest virtues that lay without the sphere of their observation.

When Madame Roland approached the end of her career, and plainly perceived that her fate was inevitable, she used to speak of her approaching end to her fellow prisoners with the greatest unconcern; nor was her fortitude at any time diminished, unless when the idea of her husband, and of her only daughter, came across her mind. The woman then resumed the ascendancy!

Before the fatal tribunal to which she was at length dragged, she stood calm and composed, until one of her barbarous judges drew tears of indignation from her eyes, by asking her questions offensive to her virtue. It is unnecessary to say, that a sentence of death followed the vague and empty charge of a conspiracy against the safety of the French Republic. On the day of trial, she wore a white dress, as a symbol of the purity of her mind; and, after receiving judgment, passed through the grate of the prison with an alacrity that bespoke something like joy, indicating to her companions in misfortune, by an expressive gesture, that she was condemned to die. Though she was then in her thirty-ninth year, the beauty of her person was but little impaired.

At the place of execution, she conducted herself with her usual courage; bowing down before the statue of Liberty, and pronouncing these memorable words—“*O Liberty! how many crimes are committed in thy name!*” As soon as the unfortunate Roland, who till then had lain concealed, heard of her death,

he

he quitted his asylum, and shot* himself upon a public road, that the friend, to whose courageous hospitality he was indebted, might not be exposed—a strong testimony of the worth of this extraordinary woman, upon whose like we can hardly hope to look again.

Had her vigorous opinions been followed by the Girondists, the liberty of the world would not have been checked by the infamy of Robespierre's proceedings. But it was the peculiar misfortune of her party, that while the only woman among them was more than man, the men, generally speaking, were less than women!

MALESHERBES.

Christian William de Lamoignon Malesherbes was born on the 6th of December, 1721. At the age of twenty-four, he became a Counsellor of Parliament, and six years afterwards Chief President of the *cour des aides*. He remained in that important situation during a period of twenty-five years; and displayed, on many occasions, uncommon proofs of firmness, eloquence, and wisdom.

When the Prince of Condé was sent by the King, in 1768, to silence the magistrates who opposed the taxes, Malesherbes replied to him—"Truth, Sir, must indeed be formidable, since so many efforts are made to prevent its approach to the throne." About

* Madame Roland had predicted this melancholy event; for in her posthumous work she asserts, that her husband would not survive her!

the same time that he became President of the *cour des aides*, he was appointed by his father, then Chancellor of France, surperintendant of the press—a department created for the express purpose of enslaving ideas, and *paralyzing* genius and philosophy; but which, under the direction of Malesherbes, served only to extend and accelerate their progress. To him, France is indebted for the publication of the Encyclopædia, Rousseau's Works, and many others, which, at that period, contributed so rapidly to advance the stock of public knowledge. When learned men were brought before him in his official capacity to undergo examination, he appeared to them as advising, assisting, and protecting them, against that very power which was vested in himself; and they experienced in him, at once, a patron, a counsellor, and a father.

In 1775, he resigned the office of Chief President of the *cour des aides*, and was appointed Minister and Secretary of State, in the room of La Vrillière. Thus placed in the centre of a frivolous, yet brilliant court, Malesherbes did not in the least deviate from his former simplicity of life and manners; but, in lieu of complying with the established etiquette which required magistrates, when they became ministers of state, to exchange their sable habit and head-dress for a coloured suit, bag-wig, and sword, he retained his black coat, and magisterial *peruke*!

As, when invested with the power designed to fetter the freedom of the press, it was his chief aim to encourage and extend that freedom; so, when raised

to an office which gave him the unlimited power of issuing *lettres de cachet*, it was their total suppression that became the earliest object of his most ardent zeal. Till that time, being considered as a part of the general police, as well as of the royal prerogative, they were issued not only at the will of the minister, but even at the pleasure of a common clerk, or persons still more insignificant. Malesherbès began by relinquishing for himself this absurd and iniquitous privilege. He delegated the right to a kind of board, composed of the most upright magistrates, whose opinion was to be unanimous, and founded upon open and well-established facts. He had but one object more to attain, and that was to substitute a legal tribunal in the place of that which he had established; and this object he was upon the point of accomplishing, when the intrigues of the Court procured the dismission of the virtuous Turgot, and Malesherbès, in consequence, resigned on the 12th of May, 1776.

After this epoch, he undertook several journeys into different parts of France, Holland, and Switzerland; where he collected, with zeal and taste, every kind of object interesting to the arts and sciences. As he conducted himself with the simplicity and œconomy of a man of letters, who had emerged from obscurity for the purpose of making observations and acquiring knowledge, he, by that means, was enabled to reserve his fortune for important occasions. He travelled slowly, and frequently on foot, that his observations might be the more minute; and

employed part of his time in suitably arranging them. These observations formed a valuable collection of interesting matter relative to the arts and sciences: they were unfortunately almost wholly destroyed by the fury of some of those Revolutionists, who have done as much prejudice to the interests of science as of humanity.

Returning from his travels, Malesherbes, for several years, enjoyed a philosophic leisure, which he well knew how to direct to useful and important objects. The two most excellent treatises which he composed in the years 1785 and 1786, on the Civil State of the Protestants in France, are well known. The law which he proposed, on this occasion, was only preparatory to a more extensive reform; and these works were to have been followed up by another, the plan of which he had already laid: public affairs grew, however, too difficult to be managed by those who held the reins of government, and they were compelled to call him to their councils.

The court favourites did not assign to him the direction of any department, but introduced him merely—as subsequent events have shewn—to cover their transactions under a popular name, and pass them upon the world as acts in which he had taken part. Malesherbes accepted these overtures solely to satisfy the desire he felt to reveal some useful truths; but it was not for this purpose that he had been invited to the councils of the sovereign. Those who presided at them, took umbrage at his first efforts to recall their attention to the voice of truth and wisdom;

and

and succeeded so well in their opposition, that he was reduced to the necessity of delivering *in writing* the advice which he wished to offer. This was the origin of two treatises relative to the *calamities* of France, and the means of repairing them; he transmitted both these to the King, who never read either, and he was unable from that moment to obtain a private audience, although a minister of state.

Perceiving the inutility of his endeavours, disgusted with the repeated errors of government, and deprived of every means of exposing them, or preventing their fatal effects; after frequent solicitations, he at length obtained leave to retire. On this he repaired to his estate at Malesherbes, and from that moment entirely devoted his time to those occupations which had ever formed the chief pleasure of his life. He passed the evenings, and a great part of the night, in reading and study.

In this tranquil state, while enjoying himself amidst his woods and fields, an unforeseen event called him forth from his retirement. Louis the XVIth was brought to the bar of the National Assembly as a criminal: abandoned by all those on whom he formerly had heaped his favours, he little expected to find a defender in him whom he had sacrificed to their intrigues; but Malesherbes considered the fallen monarch merely as an unfortunate man, and acted entirely according to the dictates of his native benevolence. He offered himself as an advocate, and his offer was accepted.

Having discharged this painful and hazardous

duty with firmness, moderation, and fidelity, he once more returned to his country residence, and resumed his tranquil course of life. But this tranquillity was of short duration. About a twelve month afterwards, in the month of December, 1793, three members of the Revolutionary Committee of Paris came to reside with him, his son-in-law, and his daughter, and apprehended the latter as criminals. Left alone with his grand-children, Malesherbes endeavoured to console the rest of his unfortunate family with the hopes which he himself was far from entertaining. On the next day, the new-formed guards arrived to apprehend him, and the whole of his relations, even the infants. This circumstance spread a general consternation throughout the whole department. Four municipal officers had sufficient courage to convoy him, in order to insure his safety, and even to accompany him and his family, on purpose to avoid the humiliating sight of an armed force.

In this calamity Malesherbes preserved the undisturbed equanimity of virtue. His affability and good humour never forsook him, and his conversation was as usual serene; so that to have beheld him—without noticing his wretched guards—it would have seemed that he was travelling for his pleasure with his neighbours and friends. He was conducted the same night to the prison of the *Madelonnettes*, with his grandson Louis Lepelletier, and his other grandchildren were sent to different prisons.

This separation proving extremely afflicting to him,

him, he protested against it ; and at length, on his repeated entreaties, they all met together once more at Port-Libre. They remained there, however, but a short period. The son-in-law of Malesherbes, the virtuous Lepelletier-Rasambo, the first of them who was arrested, was ordered into another gaol, and sacrificed a few days after. Malesherbes himself, his daughter, his grand-daughter and her husband, were all brought to the guillotine. They approached it with fortitude and serenity. It was then that his daughter addressed these pathetic words to Mademoiselle Sombreuil, who had saved the life of her parent on the 2d of September—" You have had the exalted honour to preserve *your* father—I have, at least, the consolation to die with *mine*."

Malesherbes, still the same, even in his last moments, exhibited to his relations an example of fortitude. He conversed with the persons that were near him, without bestowing the least attention on the brutalities of the wretches who tied his hands. As he was leaving the prison to ascend the fatal cart he stumbled against a stone, and made a false step—" See," said he, smiling, " how bad an omen ! A Roman in my situation would have been sent back again." He passed through Paris, ascended the scaffold, and submitted to death with the same unshaken courage. He died at the age of seventy-two years, four months, and fifteen days. He had only two daughters ; and the son of one of them—Louis Lepelletier, a young man of the fairest promise—alone remains to succeed him.

GASPARD THIEVRI,

Colonel of the ninth regiment of hussars, was out on a reconnoitering party ; and, having discovered a body of the enemy, he posted some marksmen in a ravine in his rear, it being his intention to fly on their approach, in order to draw them into an ambuscade.

His troopers, accordingly, in conformity to orders, began to term the Austrians “ Slaves of the tyrant ;—base mercenaries, fighting for a master who kept them in chains ! ” &c. &c.

They, in their turn, called their adversaries “ Paper-eaters, bell-melters, and regicides ; ” but would not advance a step.

On this, a private belonging to Thievri's regiment rode up to the Austrian line at full gallop, and leveling his pistol with a deadly precision, killed a horseman immediately opposite to him. The veteran enemy, however, undismayed by this act of temerity, instead of pushing forward, continued to joke, exclaiming—“ *Bravo, mention honorable, insertion au bulletin !* ”

PETRE.

The preceding exhibits a remarkable instance of hardihood in a private trooper ; the present furnishes an anecdote infinitely superior, of which a person of the same rank is the hero.

Petre, a hussar in Thievri's regiment, was sent to a village of Brabant, to prevent it from being plundered.

dered. Some freebooters belonging to the army, who were searching after hidden treasure, dug up a box, in which the inhabitants of the village had concealed all their property. The faithful guard, employed to protect the peasants, luckily arrived at the very moment when they were about to break the box open, and drawing his sabre, by his firmness and bravery, at length succeeded in driving away the pillagers.

After this, he instantly assembled the inhabitants; who, charmed with the bravery and generosity of the exploit, and pleased, too, perhaps, at the idea of having their future safety insured, under the guardianship of such a defender, offered to make him a present of the coffer, which contained ninety thousand livres (from 3000*l.* to 4000*l.* sterling); but the generous Petre, who absolutely refused to accept a single *liard*, after thanking, addressed them as follows:

“In preserving your property, I only did my duty; you therefore owe me nothing. I exhort you, however, to be at more pains to conceal your riches.”

Will it be believed, that some of the officers termed this *unsoldier-like conduct*, and that it actually stopped his preferment for some time?

AMAR,

Was by birth a gentleman of Grenoble, and a Counsellor, under the ancient regimen, in the parliament of Dauphiné. In early youth, he was exposed

posed to the calumnies of the Abbé Elie, Canon of the Cathedral of Grenoble; who accused him of having offered violence to him—the priest—by means of a pistol, in order to force him to impart the sacramental absolution to a young lady, his cousin, whom he had debauched. Amar was able completely to refute this abominable calumny: the circumstance, however, seemed to inspire him with a melancholy turn, an aversion to society, and a predominant love of solitude. After having, therefore, fulfilled the duties of his profession, he constantly employed his leisure hours in the study of philosophy, and natural and political history.

In the mean time, his reputation daily increased in the province of Dauphiné, both as an honest lawyer, and a well-informed man. In 1792 he was chosen, by the department of Isère, a Deputy to the National Convention. When the Revolutionary Government was moved and carried by Danton, patriots of the most austere principles were selected for the offices of the Committees of Government; and Amar was appointed a Member of the Committee of *General Security*. He immediately became the organ of that Committee to the National Convention, the reports of which were, for the most part, drawn up, and all orders of *arrestation* signed, by him. This power, added to the too frequent exercise of it, could not fail to draw down the animosities of all the Aristocrats and Royalists, and at last of all the Republicans, who imputed to him the various horrors of the revolutionary regimen.

The

The most celebrated, as well as the most atrocious report made by Amar to the National Convention, was that against the Girondine party, on the 3d of October, 1793. It was in consequence of this that the National Convention issued a decree of accusation against the twenty-one members, all of whom were soon afterwards beheaded*. He continued to exercise his functions until the death of Robespierre, when a new order of things was introduced.

Rovere, who succeeded Amar in the Committee, spared no pains to stain the memory of his predecessor, and to involve him in the same proscription with Barrere, Vadier, &c. All his efforts, however, proved fruitless, to bring this *terrorist* to punishment.

Amar acted a very obscure part during the remainder of that session; and when the famous conspiracy of the first of Prairial was discovered, being afraid lest the inflamed spirit of party should accuse him of being concerned in it—as others of his colleagues had been—he concealed himself in the neighbourhood of Paris; nor durst he appear in public again, till the new government was re-established, and a general amnesty proclaimed for all past errors.

He repaired, however, to the capital in the winter of 1796; where he lived in great obscurity and poverty. He dined constantly at Mde. Meaux's, in

* It was he also, who, on the 19th of March, 1794, presented the act of accusation against the deputies Chabot, Bazire, Delauney, and Julien of Thoulouse, all of whom but the last, who had fled, were condemned and executed, April 5th, 1794.

the Palais Royal, among other poor people, and was unknown to every one; until one day he happened to discover himself by a jest.—Going out of the parlour, the landlady observed to him, that he had left his hat behind: Amar politely thanked the lady; begged her pardon for being so absent; and added, with the usual French vivacity—“*It is better for me, Madam, to leave my hat here, than my head on the scaffold.*”

These mysterious words excited a curiosity in Mde. M. to know who he was; and she took the liberty to ask his name. He replied, that he was Amar, so much talked of in the time of the late government; that he was now happy to have escaped all further proscription; and that he was satisfied with having spent his time and fortune in serving his country, although he had been rewarded by it with the basest ingratitude. The landlady, though by no means a Republican, could not avoid feeling some interest for a person so roughly handled by Fortune, and she communicated her sentiments to some of her customers; among whom was the writer of this article; who, observing his good sense, his civility, his modesty, his various knowledge, and his oratorical abilities, made it his business to ascertain why he had been so severe during his administration. Amar, scarce able to suppress a tear, replied—“If my name was hated, because I am a Frenchman, by the enemies of the Republic at home and abroad, I can pardon them, having done them the greatest injury. But when I find myself ill-treated by Republicans, I cannot

cannot help reflecting on the examples of Democritus and Heraclitus. No other nation, besides the French, could exhibit such proofs of inconstancy and ingratitude. When I was in the Committee, the revolutionary laws purported, that all forms were to be dispensed with, in regard to counter-revolutionists; that all suspected persons were to be arrested; and that the members of the Committee were responsible for the execution of these laws, under the penalty of death.

“Toulon was, at that time, in the hands of the English; Lyons was in open rebellion; all the southern countries of France, from Nice to Bourdeaux, from Marseilles to Oranges, were embroiled in civil commotions; Valenciennes, Condé, &c. in the power of the Emperor; Landau and Strasburg besieged; the Spaniards possessed Roussillon; and La Vendée menaced the very existence of the Commonwealth, and even the Metropolis itself. Certain it is, the Republic could never have surmounted such a host of difficulties, if the Committee had not adopted rigorous measures. It was its indefatigable zeal that saved France from so many combined and powerful enemies. Barras, Rewbel, &c. are become rich under the Republic, and are esteemed; we have contributed to save the Republic, and are poor, and despised.”

During the same winter of 1796, Amar frequented the meetings of the new popular society of the Pantheonists, but was too prudent to take any very active part in it. When the conspiracy of Drouet

was

was discovered, the Legislative Body issued a decree, that all the ex-members of the late Convention should quit Paris in the space of twenty-four hours, under penalty of transportation. Amar, who was of the number, remonstrated, that no such suspicion could fall on him, who lived in Paris, like a monk, in entire solitude, and that he did not mean to retire to Grenoble, where his recent misfortunes had bereaved him of all his friends.

His remonstrance not being listened to, the Executive Directory gave orders for his arrest. Amar was, consequently, carried before the High National Court at Vendome; where, having been tried, the judges pronounced him “not guilty.” Accordingly, on the 28th of May, he was sent back to the ordinary criminal court at Paris.

Amar is about forty years of age.—Whatever might have been his errors, or even his crimes, while an active member of administration—and whatever may be the efforts of his enemies to slander him, no one has ventured, hitherto, to arraign him of the charge of ambition or rapacity: and he will always be esteemed by considerate persons, as a man led into atrocious excesses, from a mistaken idea of promoting the welfare of his country.

GENERAL LAHARPE.

Amadée Laharpe was born in 1754, in the Chateau des Uttins, near Rolle, a little town in the Pays de Vaud, of a family always distinguished for its patriotic sentiments. His father possessed the Lordships of Yens and Les Uttins. It was not known

at first, even in Switzerland, that the name of Monsieur de Yens, which indicates a title of Noblesse, is that of the General who, in France, has immortalized the name of Laharpe, by defending what he considered as the cause of Liberty with a courage equal to his talents.

His father gave him a good education, and procured for him a sub-lieutenancy in the service of the States General, in the Bernese regiment *De May*, commanded at that time by Colonel Constant,* an officer of rare merit, under whom young Laharpe, endowed by nature with a sound judgment and a very prompt conception, studied the military art.

The sollicitations of his father, then sixty years of age, and domestic cares, which required his presence, induced him some years after to quit the service, and to settle in his country; where, raised to the rank of captain of grenadiers, he lived in peace, surrounded by his family, occupied in agriculture, and beloved and esteemed by all who knew him.

On the breaking out of the Revolution in France, the Swiss aristocracy shewed itself openly averse to it. They entered into the resentments of the *Emigrés*, and insulted the numerous partizans of French Liberty in the Pays de Vaud. An immoderate joy was manifested by the ruling party on occasion of the flight of Louis XVI.; a Te Deum was chanted at Fribourg, to thank God for having saved the king from the hands of the rebels; and at Berne, and in other places, the same event was celebrated by banquets.

* A native of Lausanne.

The anniversary of the 14th of July was held a few days afterwards; when the friends of Liberty thought they might, in their turn, make a *fête* of that memorable epoch. But, not to cause alarms with regard to their intentions, they declared the same with frankness; even inviting to their entertainments, persons who were known to be of different sentiments; abstaining from all malignant allusions, and imprudent expressions, and preserving order and tranquillity. The cap of Liberty, however, was paraded—an antique and revered symbol of the emancipation of the Swiss, the impression of which is borne to this day on the medals and coins of Berne; patriotic toasts were given, and *ça ira* was sung. This was enough to furnish their enemies with a pretext they had been long seeking for.

The *State Inquisition*—a word of intolerable import in a Republic—immediately repaired to the Pays de Vaud, accompanied with 5000 men, to protect its operations.

Laharpe well knew how odious he was to the Government, for having proposed, conformably to the ancient constitution, to convoke the states of the Pays de Vaud; but not being chargeable with any other crime, and enjoying the approving testimony of his own conscience, he continued to reside in his chateau, although only two hundred paces from the place where the Inquisition held its sitting, till the instant when two respectable citizens, in contempt of the laws, were sent to the Bastille of Chillon. Then, perceiving that the friends of Liberty were
going

ing to be delivered up defenceless to the fury of a
unual, all the members of which were at once
ges and parties, he escaped from oppression by
ht. It was high time; as he set out at the mo-
nt when the armed bark, which was to convey
n to the Chateau de Chillon, was coming up the
e, in order to receive him.

Escaped from this danger, Laharpe addressed his
secutors, in a justificatory memorial, wherein he
handed to be judged according to the laws, by the
unals of the Pays de Vaud. He offered, if his
hand were granted, to return and surrender him-
prisoner. By way of answer to this he was de-
red *guilty of high treason, and condemned to be be-*
ded; and the process, on which this horrid sen-
ce rested, remained buried in obscurity.

After having proscribed his person, his enemies
hed to tarnish his reputation. They declared him
olvent; sold his estate, which was disposed of at
w price, the purchasers not thinking the acquisi-
n valid, and confiscated his other property.

Exiled by what he deemed tyranny, Laharpe sought
asylum in the camp of the French. He was wel-
ned as a brother, and honoured as a martyr in the
se of the people. Appointed chief of the fourth
talion of the volunteers of Seine and Oise, at the

going to be delivered up defenceless to the fury of a tribunal, all the members of which were at once judges and parties, he escaped from oppression by flight. It was high time; as he set out at the moment when the armed bark, which was to convey him to the Chateau de Chillon, was coming up the lake, in order to receive him.

Escaped from this danger, Laharpe addressed his persecutors, in a justificatory memorial, wherein he demanded to be judged according to the laws, by the tribunals of the Pays de Vaud. He offered, if his demand were granted, to return and surrender himself prisoner. By way of answer to this he was declared *guilty of high treason, and condemned to be beheaded*; and the process, on which this horrid sentence rested, remained buried in obscurity.

After having proscribed his person, his enemies wished to tarnish his reputation. They declared him insolvent; sold his estate, which was disposed of at a low price, the purchasers not thinking the acquisition valid, and confiscated his other property.

Exiled by what he deemed tyranny, Laharpe sought an asylum in the camp of the French. He was welcomed as a brother, and honoured as a martyr in the cause of the people. Appointed chief of the fourth battalion of the volunteers of Seine and Oise, at the end of 1791, he was stationed, in 1792, at the Chateau de Rodemak, and exposed to the first onset of the coalition army, which was then advancing.

That critical moment for France is yet remembered with astonishment; when the insubordination
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of the army was at its height ; when a general distrust, and the defections and daily treasons of the officers and commanders encouraged disorder in the troops, and disorder paved the way for the entrance of the enemy into France. Well knowing he could not keep the place, Laharpe resolved at least to give the first example of self-devotion which freemen owe to their country ; nor had he any difficulty in communicating to his brave brethren in arms the enthusiasm which inspired him. They all swore not to capitulate, but to open to themselves a passage, sword in hand ; or, in case of an absolute impossibility of doing this, to bury themselves with the enemy under the ruins of the Chateau, the subterranean passages of which, converted into mines, had been already prepared for the purpose.

The general, however, who commanded at that period, was not willing to deprive France of such brave defenders. He gave orders for the evacuation of Rodemak ; the artillery and stores of which were transported to Thionville, in the face of the combined troops, already masters of all the surrounding posts. A daring feat, which procured for him who achieved it the surname of *Brave*, an appellation with which Luckner honoured Laharpe at the head of the army, in the camp of Richemont.

Being soon after appointed *Commandant* of Bitche, which was threatened, and from which the Swiss regiment of *Chat.au-Vieux* had just deserted, he not only preserved that place for France, but appeased, by his activity and conciliating temper, the insurrections

tions which the priests had at that time excited in the Vosges.

He took part, for a short time, in the successive attacks directed against Treves by Bournonville; and had his clothes perforated with balls at the foot of the enemy's entrenchments. The bad weather causing this enterprize to be relinquished, and the victories of Dumouriez, Kellerman, and Custine, having removed the seat of war to a distance from the frontiers, he procured an employment of a more active kind.

Appointed at first to the command of Briançon, he carried on in the Alps a petty, yet instructive war; the only compensation for the perils and fatigues of which, was the satisfaction of approving himself useful to the Republic, in the sphere wherein he found himself placed. Called, in the sequel, to the army which besieged Toulon, he was appointed to the attack of Fort Pharon, which he carried by assault with the greatest intrepidity, forcing the enemy to evacuate the place. This action procured him the applause of the whole army, and the rank of *General of Brigade*. It was in this last capacity that he was invested with the command *pro tempore* at Marseilles, where he had the rare happiness of making himself at the same time beloved and respected.

Returning to the army of Italy, and being always in the vanguard, he shared, under the orders of Kellerman, all the painful labours of that general; and, at the end of 1794, completely defeated the Austrians at Garesio and Cairo, thus keeping up the com-

munication of the army with Genoa, and overturning the projects of the enemy.

At the beginning of 1795,* Laharpe was selected to command the troops embarked for the purpose of re-conquering Corsica: this expedition, however, not succeeding, by reason of the inferiority of the French fleet to that of the English, he resumed his post in the army of Italy; which at that time, though less than the Austro-Sardinian army by about two-thirds, and destitute of every thing, nevertheless disputed its ground with a bravery worthy of the greatest eulogiums.

During the retreat, General Laharpe, placed in the rear-guard, that is, always nearest the enemy, defeated them again at Vado; and De Vins, who had already grasped in his mind the conquest of Provence, saw himself checked by an enfeebled army; the destruction of which had been announced to Europe, and which yet remained unaffailable in the line of defence it had taken up, till the arrival of reinforcements enabled it to resume offensive operations, and finally to complete the conquest of all Italy. A little before this, Laharpe had been promoted to the rank of General of Division, as a recompence for his conduct.

While meditating, in his winter-quarters, on the means of opening the campaign with eclat, his personal enemies, the Aristocrats of his own country,

* In the course of the same year, (1795) he was suspended from his command, under the pretext of *Jacobinism*, but was soon after restored and promoted.

spared no pains to circulate reports to his prejudice by means of their emissaries at Paris ; and, towards the latter days of the Convention, had flattered themselves with the hope of seeing him displaced.

They, however, failed in their attempts ; and consoled themselves for their disappointment, by giving out in Switzerland, that Laharpe had disappeared, taking away with him the military chest ; although at that very time he was co-operating in the brilliant successes of Buonaparte ; although he had just received from the Executive Directory a letter of felicitation on the share he had in the victories of Montenotte and Dego ; although, in fine, he had just saluted with cordiality the Bernese officers of the regiment de Stettler, made prisoners at Mondovi ; and, without reproaching any of them for having formerly voted for his proscription, had only said to them—“ *I hope we shall one day see each other again in Switzerland as good friends.*”

This brave man, alas ! was to be cut down in the summer of his life, and in the midst of his career of glory, by one of those mistakes too common in war, and which are not one of its least calamities. After the passage of the Po, the 19th Floreal, his vanguard being attacked during the night by a numerous corps of the enemy, he ran to the spot to repulse them, and in a very short time succeeded. After this, he was returning to his quarters, when his escort of hussars, being met by a corps of French, was mistaken in the dark for Austrian Hulans : and a mutual discharge

of musquetry taking place, the general fell at the first fire.

Victorious in all engagements, invulnerable by the enemy, it was his destiny to fall by the hand of those whom he loved, and by whom he was beloved, and whose bitter regrets attended him to the tomb. To the most indisputable courage, he united uncommon intelligence and activity: he possessed the eloquence of the heart in the highest degree, that *bon-homme*, (good nature) that affability, which nothing can resist. His disinterestedness, his generosity, which made him forget the wrongs he endured, and his inviolable attachment to the cause of Liberty, are virtues which ought to render his memory respectable, while his military talents have rendered it glorious.

Here follows the testimony which Buonaparte gave to his military virtues, in his dispatch addressed to the Executive Directory, the day after that sad event—“*The Republic has lost a man much attached to it, the army one of its best generals, and all the soldiers a comrade as intrepid as punctual in discipline.*” The news of his death caused tears to be shed by all good men, whether friends or enemies, not only in his native country, but throughout Europe.

General Laharpe has left an orphan family of six children behind him. His eldest son, in the course of last year, received a lieutenancy in the service of France, and, in the language of his friends, is “ambitious to emulate the career of his illustrious father.”

HERAULT DE SEHELLES.

Few men made a greater, and, it may be added a more respectable figure in the French Revolution, during the six months previous to, and as many after, the fall of the Brissotines, than Hérault de Séchelles. He was of a rich and distinguished family, which had given him a liberal education; and was ennobled, independently of his patent place, as Advocate General of the Parliament of Paris. He was born in the capital, and was chosen a deputy for that department to the National Convention. He enjoyed a considerable fortune of his own, and in addition to this, he had very considerable expectations from a wealthy uncle, greatly advanced in years.

The fall of Hérault is not, perhaps, wholly to be ascribed to the political sins imputed to him: he was unquestionably a Republican in his heart; but, from a vanity which may be considered as natural, he paid too much regard to the character he had acquired of being what the French term *un joli garçon*. Thus, though his language was never incompatible with the austerities of the newly-adopted government, yet his dress was, by many, thought highly inconsistent with it; and frequent sarcasms were thrown out against him on this subject, by his fellow deputies, who made it a point to dress as much as possible *en Jacobin*.

However unpardonable this offence against the exterior of republicanism might appear in the eyes of those shallow-minded reformers, who confound its

attributes with its essence, others at that time considered it as a *peccadillo* only, and fixed upon him as the most proper person to open a communication with foreign powers for obtaining a peace. The Committee of Public Welfare accordingly distinguished him by the appellation and authority of *diplomatic member*. In this capacity he made various fruitless efforts to treat with two of the states combined against the infant Republic; but such were the haughty and overbearing tone and conduct of the league, at that period, that every overture was rejected with a disdain as rash as it has since proved puerile.

When those jealousies became general, which may be considered as the natural concomitants of a Revolution like that of France, and they who were in the secret of his designs, had conceived projects which they were sure Hérault would not join in; they converted the means he had adopted for founding the hostile cabinets, and especially that of Great Britain, into suspicions, and charges of compromising the honour of his country.

Another act, unsupported however by proofs, was imputed to him, which could not fail greatly to injure his reputation: it was, that he had employed more than one agent to vest a considerable sum in the English funds. The circumstances of his speaking our language, and associating greatly with the English in Paris, gave colour to these surmises. Hérault had not only failed in every endeavour at pacification; but the war, at this precise time, took a peculiarly unfavourable turn: several of the strong
garrison

garrison towns fell into the hands of the allies ; and these circumstances were, by the enemies of the diplomatic member, attributed to Hérault's complaisance, and to the symptoms of weakness which he had betrayed in his offers for accommodation.

In collisions of parties of this kind, the least popular is sure to fall. While Robespierre and Couthon were flattering the powerful Jacobins in their hall, and the facile people in the tribunes of the Convention, Hérault was inconsiderately trifling his time in the company of a *chère amie* and her mother, whom he had gallantly conducted to Paris, on his return from Chambery, whither he had been sent on a commission, and on which expedition he was accompanied by the celebrated American Joel Barlow.

The envious foes of Sechelles had a great advantage over him, in the people's eyes ; since, while they were seen walking on foot to the club of the *Jacobins*, or other popular societies, he was discovered in a *tête-à-tête* with a fair lady, at a splendid house in the Boulevards, or peeping through the glass of a gilded chariot. These were scenes which, however tolerated a short time before, could not be looked on with composure by the stern eyes of Republicans, especially by those who considered themselves such *par excellence*. Thus the very man who had, a few weeks before, presented the plan of a new constitution to the Convention, and had presided in the Field of Mars on the day appointed for its formal acceptance, was now treated as a suspected person by his colleagues in the government-committee ; inasmuch

when Barrere, on the 17th of March, 1794, announced to the Convention that Herault had been arrested, it appeared that he had not, for several weeks, assisted at its councils.

Above half a million of people had lately looked up to Herault, on the elevated altar of Liberty, and done homage to him, as personifying the new democratic constitution: he was now, sad reverse! about to be ingloriously sacrificed on an ignominious scaffold!

Danton, the famous leader of another party, had been taken up the evening before Herault, by order of the same Committee; and, as such violent factions give but little breathing-time to their antagonists, when the favourable moment arrives for directing a blow with effect, the accused were brought to trial on the third day; and, to the surprize of a great many, the *act d'accusation* — indictment — charged them with conspiring together to overturn the National Convention, to re-establish royalty in France, and to massacre the Committee of Public Welfare. There are times when the *ipse dixit* of a popular orator is sufficient to condemn any obnoxious character to public odium. The corrupt servility of the Revolutionary Tribunal studied and obeyed the will of the few in power, who now appeared to have perpetuated their authority. The judge and jury, therefore, after the most inconsistent accusation and evidence, condemned Herault de Sechelles, and the other designated conspirators, to die by the guillotine. This the new tyrants called the *second weeding* of the Republican

publican garden ; which work, if they had been allowed to have proceeded in their own way, would doubtless have ended in converting it into a desert, for the chace and pleasure of one or two despots.

Herault, Danton, Chabot, Phillippeaux, and five others, were, on the 5th of April, conveyed in three carts to the place of execution ; compelled to wear the scarlet shirt, the opprobrious badge of treason. They suffered in the presence of an immense multitude ; among whom, many did not fail to express their doubts concerning the justness of the sentence, and the truth of the charges.

Herault, who was but thirty years of age, possessed a handsome person and pleasing address. He spoke with considerable energy when before the Tribunal ; and told the people, as he ascended the platform of the guillotine, that they would soon distinguish their enemies from their friends. It was pretty generally believed that a rescue would have been attempted, as some hundreds of the society of the Cordeliers, women as well as men, had entered into an engagement to that effect. Robespierre, however, by means of his *mouchards*,* was apprized of the design, and frustrated it, by ordering the execution sooner than it was expected to happen.

When Herault was in danger of being arrested by a mandate of the tyrant Robespierre, a friend of his, M. Thyerry, a foreigner of liberal education, and of respectable character, offered him a secure retreat in Switzerland ; and a passport, in a fictitious

* Spies.

name, from the agent of Basil residing at Paris. Herault thanked him for his kindness ; and heroically added—“ *I would gladly accept of your offer, Citizen, if I could carry my native country with me.*”

Herault de Sechelles was esteemed so good a writer, that he was appointed to compose, in conjunction with St. Just, the constitution of 1793. That constitution is, in consequence, very elegantly written, and is considered, by men of letters in France, as a pattern of style for a code of civil law. He was also the author of a work upon Declamation ; and of a pamphlet respecting the private life of the great Buffon.

DUFRICHE DE VALAZE.

Charles Eleonora Valazé was born at Alençon, the chief town in the department of l'Orne. His parents were honest burgeses, whose circumstances enabled them to give him a liberal education. As the paternal estate was divided among three brothers, his share was scarcely sufficient for his subsistence ; he, therefore, entered himself at the bar, and for some time exercised the functions of a counsel, with honour and reputation.

Although he was considered as one of the best lawyers in the *baillage*, and pleaded causes with a grace and eloquence seldom witnessed in a provincial town, he had not many clients. Either his distinguished manners gave him an air of superiority, which was construed into affectation ; or, by his well-known contempt for priests, and aversion to the established religion,

religion, he had drawn upon himself the ill opinion of the inhabitants of a country, where every man who did not go to mass, and rehearse his *chapelet*, was considered as an atheist.

His elder brother, who was also a barrister, and esteemed almost as great an orator as himself, was, on the other hand, much consulted, and had many clients. He was also a zealous partizan of the Revolution; but the desire of being named himself, induced him to separate his interests from those of his brother, and thereby prevented the latter from being nominated Deputy to the First Assembly, where he would, doubtless, have quickly distinguished himself as a first-rate orator.

In the first Electoral Meetings, the public mind was so prepossessed against Valazé, that although he outshone, as a public speaker, all the electors of the department, he was hissed and hooted whenever he opened his mouth. This treatment, however, did not disconcert him; and very frequently, after having allowed ample scope to the derisions or sarcasms of the crowd, he arose, and, with admirable *sang froid* and precision, repeated, verbatim, all he had spoken before, and refuted every objection made against him. His eloquence, like that of Alcibiades, bore along with it the suffrages of his enemies themselves; who, in spite of their inveterate prejudices, never failed to adopt his propositions.

Valazé was *maire* of a little town, called Essay, two leagues distant from Sees, and four from Alençon. In this capacity he took care that all the de-

crees of the National Assembly should be rigorously executed ; he explained the same to the peasants ; directed the parishes of the canton in their operations ; and managed all interests with such address, that he prevailed on the curate of the town to take the oath prescribed to the priests ; and on the abbess, with all the *religieuses* of her community, to acknowledge the Constitutional Bishop, and thereby separate themselves from the refractory clergy. Of all the religious communities known in France, under the name of Royal Abbeys, this was, perhaps, the only one which sacrificed bigotry to reason, and the necessity of circumstances : it was, doubtless, to the management of Valazé that we must ascribe this species of anti-superstitious phenomenon.

After having discharged successively the offices of Elector, Mayor, and Administrator of the district, he was, at length, nominated Deputy to the National Convention. It is well known, that he early attached himself to the Girondist party, then the only one truly Republican, and that he boldly avowed his principles, and never varied from them. Madame Roland, in her Appeal, assures us, that the Girondist Deputies sometimes met at the house of Valazé, to concert measures to prevent the storm which the still increasing ascendancy of the Deputies of the Mountain in the Convention portended.

He had been appointed to draw up a report of all the papers found at Versailles, which were to serve as articles of accusation against Louis XVI. The manner in which he acquitted himself of this delicate

delicate and difficult commission, is well remembered.*

On the famous 31st of May, when the decree of arrest was carried against the twenty-two Deputies of the Gironde, Valazé could have escaped, and found an asylum in the revolted departments, which might have lengthened out his life, and perhaps saved it. He was pressingly solicited to take this step: he obstinately refused, however; and rather than sully his reputation by the least appearance of fear, he chose to remain at his post, and surrender himself to the satellites of Robespierre, who sent Brissot, and his other virtuous colleagues, to the scaffold, on the 31st of October, 1793.

Valazé heard his sentence of death pronounced with *sang froid*, and without complaining. He had

* It appears from "Le Procès de Marie Antoinette, de Lorraine—d'Autriche, Veuve Capet," &c. that Valazé was summoned as an evidence on the trial of the Queen, but it was merely to authenticate certain papers that he had access to formerly, as Reporter of the Committee alluded to above:

"Charles Eleonora Dufriche Valazé, late deputy of the National Convention, declared upon oath, that he had seen among the papers mentioned before, an order, or rather a receipt for 15 or 20,000 livres, and also a letter from the Minister, in which he besought the King to communicate to Marie Antoinette the plans of the campaign which he had transmitted to him.

"The Queen denied the signature; and in respect to her influence over the King, so directly alluded to in the Minister's letter, observed, *that there was a great difference between advising a measure, and causing it to be executed.*" This must be allowed to have been a shrewd reply, on the part of the unfortunate Queen.

indeed

indeed anticipated it ; for he was provided with a poniard, with which he struck himself in the court before his execrable judges, who were covered with the blood of this wise and virtuous man. In fine, he died with all the enthusiasm of a high-spirited Republican.

FABRE D'EGLANTINE,

Was born at Chalons, in Champagne. He was early instructed by the care of his parents, in polite literature and natural philosophy. From his youth, he felt an invincible inclination to court the muses ; and in the year 1786 he published, in a French periodical work, entitled, *Les Etrennes du Parnasse*, a little poem, called *Châlons sur Marne* ; in which he drew a very charming picture of the moral pleasures that were to be found in that place, and its neighbourhood. This piece, however, was then considered as a juvenile composition, and fell very short of producing that degree of celebrity which its author afterwards attained.

In the years 1789 and 1790, he ushered into the world two well known comedies : *Le Philinte*, and *L'Intrigue Epistolaire*. Besides his talents for writing comedies, he felt, like Moliere, an inclination to perform parts upon the stage. He accordingly acted in his own plays at the theatres of Lyons and Nismes.

In 1792, his acknowledged patriotism caused him to be chosen a Deputy to the National Convention. In that assembly, during the winter and the spring of the year 1793, his conduct was not very commendable.

able. It is generally understood at Paris, that, in conjunction with Danton and Robespierre, he contributed not a little towards effecting the infamous arrest of the Brissotines, on the 31st of May. A few days afterwards, he observed to a friend, that the domineering spirit of the Girondists, who had engrossed all the power and offices of the state, had compelled him and his colleagues, in order to shake off their yoke, to throw themselves into the hands of the *Sans culoterie*. He could not help, however, foreboding dangerous consequences from the proceedings of that day; as the same mob which had been taught to despise the legislature, might, at the instigation of another faction, overthrow him and his friends, in their turn. This presentiment of Fabre was afterwards but too fully verified.

On the removal of the Girondists, and the establishment of the Mountain party in power, Fabre began to act a considerable part. He was appointed a member of the Committee of Public Instruction; and in that station, in the month of August, 1793, gave his vote for suppressing all academies and literary corporations, which, from their privileges and aristocratic spirit, were considered as unfriendly to a Republican Government.

In October, 1793, he submitted to the National Convention the plan of the new Calendar, which has since been adopted. The accuracy and regularity with which this calendar was executed evinced an uncommon degree of knowledge in mathematics and natural philosophy, and reflected on its author the
highest

highest reputation. It gave birth, however, to a pleasant pamphlet, entitled, *Le Législateur à la Mode*; which was an endeavour to prove, that the 31st chapter of the Travels of Anacharsis, by the Abbé Barthelemy, where the description of the ancient Greek calendar was introduced, had furnished the leading ideas of the new calendar of Fabre d'Eglantine.

In the winter of 1794, the *Mountain* party had split into two divisions, the *Jacobins* and the *Corde-liers*; or, in other words, the *Robespierrists* and *Dantonists*. Fabre was of the party of Danton; and was arrested and confined, with Danton's other adherents, in the prison of the Luxemburg, in March, 1794. From that jail he wrote a number of letters, which were afterwards printed: and have been highly extolled, as beautiful exhibitions of sensibility and talents in distress. After a month's imprisonment, he was, with many others, cruelly butchered in the *Place de la Revolution* in the thirty-fifth year of his age.

ROBESPIERRE.

The very name of Robespierre excites a variety of disagreeable sensations—wonder, rage, horror, and revenge, occupy the bosom by turns. Of his countrymen, some claim a murdered parent, others their mangled sons and daughters; the husband his bleeding wife; the wife her decollated husband. France, converted into a charnel-house under his administration, beheld more than an hundred thousand of her children proscribed, starved, expatriated, assassinated
and

and cut off, either with or without the forms of law ! The Patriot and the perfidious Citizen—the Republican and the Royalist—the Anarchist and the Lover of Order—all equally experienced his hatred, and perished by his deadly enmity. Never did Liberty suffer more than by his hypocritical attachment : never did despotism receive so much consolation as arose from his cruelties. Tyranny brandished her whips, and shook her chains, from Moscow to Algiers ; and boasted, with a perfidious triumph, her milder empire !

Maximilian Robespierre was born in 1759, within the walls of the city of Arras, the capital of the *ci-devant* province of Artois. The Royalists, as if fiction had been necessary to render his memory more detestable, pretend that he was the nephew of that Damiens who assassinated Louis XV. It is but justice, on the contrary, to state, that his family was both ancient and respectable ; for his progenitors had occupied some of the higher departments of the magistracy, and appertained to that class formerly termed *la noblesse de la robe*.

His father was an Advocate of great knowledge and purity of manners ; but, as œconomy was not among his virtues, his two sons and a daughter inherited nothing from him but his poverty. His unfulfilled reputation, however, proved serviceable to his family ; for a relation undertook the maintenance of the female, and the two boys had the good fortune to be protected, or rather adopted, by the Bishop of Arras.

Maximilian,

Maximilian, the elder brother, was accordingly educated under the immediate inspection of this Prelate, who, doubtless, instilled excellent principles into his mind; but malice, always active, and always uncharitable, has traced to this very source that consummate hypocrisy which distinguished his pupil through life, and which, it is pretended, he could have only acquired under the tuition of a priest!

At a proper age, young Robespierre was sent to the college of Louis le Grand, a famous seminary, formerly under the direction of the Jesuits. There he distinguished himself by his assiduity and talents, and bore away the annual prizes from all competitors of his own class.

This—and it must be allowed to have been a very honourable one—was the only distinguishing characteristic of his youth; for it is allowed, that he did not develope even the germ of those passions which influenced his bosom in his more advanced years, and rendered him not only the scourge of his country, but of mankind. Paschal, amidst the silence of his prison, meditated on Euclid; and Voltaire chalked the first lines of his *Henriade* on the walls of his dungeon: but Robespierre did not discover his future destiny by anticipation; and it was the opinion of the professors, that his reputation would never extend beyond the walls of the college in which he had been educated.

At the age of seventeen, it was determined that he should be bred to the bar; and his friends, judging

ing from his early success, already imagined that he would dispute the palm of eloquence with the first lawyers of France. He was accordingly committed to the care of a M. Ferrieres, nephew to an Advocate of the same name, who had distinguished himself by an excellent treatise on Jurisprudence.

It is asserted, however, that notwithstanding the repeated admonitions of that gentleman, Maximilian could never be prevailed upon to pay any degree of attention to his professional studies. Incapable of application, disgusted with the slightest difficulties, he is *said* to have acquired an antipathy to knowledge, and to have sworn a deadly enmity both to learning and learned men!

It was at first determined that he should practise before the Parliament of Paris, but this scheme was never carried into execution; for he returned to his native province, and was admitted an Advocate in the Superior Council of Artois.

We do not find that he distinguished himself there by his eloquence; and have every reason to suppose that he would never have risen above mediocrity, or been noticed in the crowd of provincial pleaders, had not an uncommon concurrence of circumstances elevated him to a situation in which the eyes of all Europe were fixed upon him. He, however, made himself known as an Author, if not as an Advocate; for he published two treatises about this time, in one of which he explained the principles of Electricity, and removed the vulgar prejudices that prevailed respecting *conductors*, the erection of which

was

was opposed by the ignorant, under the pretence that they were impious, and better calculated to produce destruction than ensure safety.

The other was on Death, considered as a punishment. In this, all the modern governments were justly reproached for the sanguinary laws still prevalent in their criminal codes, and doubts were hinted, as to the right claimed by society of cutting off the life of an individual.

No sooner had the letters of convocation to the States-General been issued, than Robespierre determined to become a candidate. He proved successful in his endeavours; and was, accordingly, nominated one of the representatives of his native province. He is said to have drawn up the *Cahiers**, or Instructions; by means of which the Electors were accustomed to regulate the conduct of their deputies.

In the National Assembly, he sat and voted with the *coté gauche*, or patriotic side; and was sometimes confounded with the *Orleanists*, and sometimes with the *Constitutionnels*. The former wished to place Philip on the throne of Louis; the latter were zealous for the adoption of the English Constitution. It is no less true than singular, however, that Robe-

* The following is reported to have been a passage in one of the *Cahiers* alluded to—" *Nous nous soumettrons bien volontiers à l'autorité du Roi pendant pour un an; et si nous en sommes contents, nous le continuerons.*"—We will readily submit ourselves to the authority of the King during one year; and, if we be content with his conduct at the end of that period, we will protract it.

spierre remained in the greatest obscurity during the first legislature; and was considered as a passionate, hot-headed young man, whose chief merit consisted in his being warmly and sincerely attached to the cause of Liberty*.

It was he, however, who first brought the term *Aristocrat* into common use. This occurred on Thursday, Nov. 19, 1790; when a deputation from a corporation in the *Cambresis*, having complained at the bar, of some abuses, the Deputy from Arras ascended the tribune, and exclaimed, that the petitioners deserved no favour, being themselves (*un corps aristocratique*) an *aristocratical* body. The Assembly burst into a fit of laughter on the mention of this word: it, however, soon produced far different sensations!

It was about this time that he became the editor of a journal entitled *L'Union, ou Journal de la Liberté*. The Royalists, who accuse him of gross ignorance, enumerate, with exultation, the geographical, political, and even grammatical blunders daily exhibited in this newspaper. It is allowed by every one, that

* On the 27th of July, 1789, when M. Lally Tollendal proposed a proclamation to restrain the excesses and violence of the people, Robespierre, who opposed the measure, spoke as follows:

“What has happened after all, in consequence of this revolt in Paris? The public liberty has been achieved—some little blood has been spilt—a few heads have been struck off, but they were guilty ones!

“Ah! Sir, it is to this commotion that the nation is indebted for its freedom, and that we are now sitting in this place!”

it was conducted with extreme violence, and displayed but little taste or genius. Indeed, the exaggerating disposition of the editor had brought him into some degree of contempt; and it was at that time customary to remark, with a kind of satirical eulogium—*que Mirabeau étoit le flambeau de la Provence, & Robespierre la chandelle d'Arras!*—that Mirabeau was the flambeau of Provence, and Robespierre the candle of Arras! This much is certain, that he never was elected into any of the Committees, or honoured with the President's chair in the First Assembly.

To the Society of the Jacobins, Robespierre is indebted for all his celebrity, and all his power. He became their chief; and it was the members of this body who first propagated the idea, “that the Assembly had ruined France, and Robespierre could alone save it!”

It is but candid here to confess, that the early part of his conduct in the Legislative Body was pure and unspotted; that he steadfastly opposed the interested revision of the constitution, and withstood every temptation arising from the corruption so prodigally administered by the court. Alas! this very circumstance, in the end, rendered him more dangerous to Liberty, and the surname of *Incorruptible*, enabled him to sacrifice all his real or supposed enemies to his vengeance.

Robespierre did not refuse to fill subordinate offices, as has been asserted: he, however, did not retain them any considerable time. He was first nominated

minated President of the Tribunal of the district of Versailles ; and was consequently empowered to decide both in civil and criminal affairs, as the juries had not been then organized. Having resigned this employment, he next obtained that of *Accusateur Public* to the Criminal Tribunal of the department of Paris, which he also held but for a short period. His conduct in the exercise of these functions stands unimpeached ; no one instance of cruelty or injustice has been adduced by the bitterest of his enemies ; and had the court but proved faithful to that constitution, from which it could not recede without the foulest perjury, Robespierre would never have been elevated to the Dictatorship !

It was during the National Convention, that this man attained the summit of his ambition. In the first Legislature, he joined the patriots ; in the second, he declared for the *Republicans* : in both his party proved finally victorious. — It was in the third, that he himself was doomed to triumph, not only over his rivals, but his country.

The *Commune* of Paris, the Jacobin Society, and even the Assembly itself, were filled with his creatures, and became obedient to his commands. In short, the nation looked up to him as to a saviour.

No sooner, however, had he attained the giddy eminence of power, than his nature seems to have experienced a total change ; and Robespierre, like many others, here affords a memorable instance of the effects of sudden elevation in debasing the human mind, by making it ferocious. Rendered cruel

by

by habit and suspicion, both Royalists and Republicans equally experienced his vengeance ; a number of the first were cruelly butchered in prison ; and of the latter, Brissot, Vergniaux, Genfonné, Valazé, &c. &c. fell by the guillotine ; while the Ex-Minister Roland, and the celebrated Ex-Secretary Condorcet, were reduced to the melancholy necessity of putting themselves to death. In the *Girondists* perished nearly all that was great and amiable in France. In Madame Roland fell the first female genius of her age ; in the person of her husband, virtue itself was outraged ; while, in the executions of Condorcet, Lavoisier, and Bailly, science received a mortal and irrecoverable stab.

The proscriptions of Sylla and Marius were once more renewed in the most polished country of modern Europe, and in an age, too, boastful of its studied refinements. *Suspected persons*, or, in other words, every one either dreaded or hated by those in power, were arrested : *domiciliary visits* awakened the sleeping victims of persecution to misery and destruction ; while *Revolutionary Tribunals* condemned them in scores, unpitied and even unheard. The laws were no longer maintained ; the idea of a constitution became intolerable ; all power was concentrated, as among the eastern nations ; the government degenerated into a Turkish Divan : it was the *Committee of Public Safety* that regulated every thing, that absolved or tried, that spoiled or enriched, that murdered or saved ; and this Committee was entirely regulated

gulated by the will of Robespierre, who governed it by means of his creatures, St. Just and Couthon.

He reserved for himself, however, the immediate superintendence of the *Revolutionary Tribunals*; and was accustomed at night to mark down the victims who were to perish before the setting of the morrow's sun.

The execution of four or five a-day did not satiate his vengeance; the murder of thirty or forty was demanded, and obtained: the streets became deluged with blood: canals were necessary to convey it to the Seine; and experiments were actually made at the Bicêtre with an instrument for cutting off half a score heads at a single motion!

At length, the tyrant began to be dreaded even by his own accomplices; and all parties seem to have cordially united in the destruction of a man, during whose life they themselves were exposed to the most imminent dangers. A circumstance, similar to what occurred to a famous despot of antiquity*, is said to have accelerated his fate; for the Committee of Public Safety, having found a long roll of proscriptions on one of his creatures, who had been arrested by mistake, they are reported to have discovered their own names inscribed in the bloody register.

The storm first burst in the Convention. Billaud, Panis, Freron, Cambon, Tallien, and Vadier, accused him of his crimes to his face; Barrere and Collet overwhelmed him with reproaches; and the

* The Emperor Domitian.

abashed traitor himself is said to have called out for death*.

While the Legislature were exercising a grand act of national justice, the Municipality sounded the *tocfin*, and many members of the Jacobin Club marched to the succour of their chief. By turns a prisoner and a leader, vanquished and triumphant, he was at length seized in an apartment of the town-house, and pierced with wounds.

On the morning of the 10th Thermidor (July 28, 1794,) he was led to execution, amidst the execrations of the people, with one eye hanging out of the socket, and his lower jaw attached to the upper by means of a handkerchief. It had been separated by a musket ball.

Thus perished Maximilian Robespierre, in the thirty-fifth year of his age. His character does not possess the least resemblance to any of the illustrious ruffians of antiquity, who have been rendered memorable either by their crimes or their exploits. Sylla and Marius, bred up to arms, and inured to warfare, were both brave to excess. Julius, before he crossed the Rubicon, and became the tyrant of his country, had displayed uncommon personal courage on many occasions. Even the luxurious Anthony, and the vile Augustus—the latter of whom it has been too long the fashion to praise—were at times capable of exhibiting instances of intrepidity. Cataline, in the very hour of his death, was terrible;

* “*Eh bien! donnez moi, donnez moi la mort!*”

for his mutilated corpse was surrounded by heaps that had perished by his own hand. But Robespierre was a base coward, who on all occasions was solicitous for his own safety, and trembled like a woman at the very idea of danger. He was bold only in words and gestures:—" *Ignavissimus quisque, et ut res docuit, in periculo non ausurus, nimii verbis, linguæ feroces.*"

On the 10th of August, he hid himself as usual, and only came out of his lurking hole to claim the triumphs of that memorable day. Even on the 1st, 2d, and 3d of September, he is said to have been concealed, until he could safely reap all the advantages of the barbarous murders committed by his partisans. It was then he made his appearance, it was then he realised the horrid picture of Cicero:—" *Vultus ipsius plenus furoris, oculi sceleris, sermo arrogantiae.*"

The person of Robespierre was below the middle size; the temperament of his body was nervous and irritable; and he had something hideous in his aspect, which was greatly increased by means of a pair of green spectacles. This acquired him the appellation of *the Dragon*: that of the *Basilisk* would, perhaps, have been more appropriate.

He affected to be called a *Sans-Culotte*; but his clothes were always chosen with taste; and his hair was constantly dressed and powdered, with a precision that bordered on foppery. He was but an indifferent orator; for his person, voice, and provincial accent, militated against the grand characteristics of eloquence. He was generally deficient al-

so in point of composition ; his speech on the trial of Louis XVI. is, however, an exception. That on the *recognition* of the Supreme Being, is said to have been written by a member of one of the *ci-devant* Academies.

It was the idea of his virtue, and confidence in his principles, that procured him the unbounded esteem of a corrupt age. Until intoxicated with power, his conduct and morals must be allowed to have been unimpeachable. While a private man, he exhibited virtues that seemed to render him worthy of command ; and it was not until he was vested with supreme authority, that, like the *deified* Cæsars of ancient times, he threw off the character of humanity, and became a demon. He was never a Republican ; for the idea of a Commonwealth, like that of a limited monarchy, supposes a restraint on governors, as well as on the governed ; and, if we are to believe an illustrious woman*, basely murdered by him, he was accustomed to sneer on the mention of the term, and ask what it meant ? †

DE LA TOUCHE,

Was the son of a counsellor in the parliament of Brittany, one of those municipal jurisdictions that

* Madame Roland. See her "Appeal to Impartial Posterity," vol. i. page 58.

† The younger brother of Robespierre, instead of wishing to avoid his fate, offered himself as a sacrifice. Like the tyrant, he had sat in the Convention, like him he had possessed unbounded authority, during his pro-consulship in the south, and he perished along with him on the same day.

for a long time ineffectually opposed the inroads of Despotism. He himself had received an excellent education, which qualified him to be a *man of letters*; or, in other words, enabled him to cultivate his taste, and increase his sensibility; in short, afforded him the means of just keeping himself from starving!

From the persecutions of M. de Vergennes, the French Minister for Foreign Affairs, whom he was accustomed to term *le honte de l'Europe*, M. de la Touche found it necessary to repair to England.—Like several of his countrymen, he procured bread in this capital by means of the *Courier de l'Europe*, a French paper at that time in high reputation, and which lost none of its celebrity while under his management. At length, on Demorande's becoming editor, he started another journal, under the name of the *Courier de Londres*, a title which the former has since assumed; but it so happened, that there either were not readers sufficient to support two French newspapers, or the former was too firmly established to be easily overset.

Failing in this project, he repaired to Holland; and lived for some time under the immediate protection, and we believe in the family, of Sir Joseph Yorke, afterwards Lord Dover, who remained firmly attached to him until his death.

Having returned to England, in consequence of the disturbances that had occurred in the States-General, he soon after learned with rapture that a Revolution had taken place in his native country. Be-

ing very eloquent, he was accustomed to harrangue an audience of foreigners, at the Orange Coffee-house; and he had many battles with the Italians there, whom he always termed *bastard Romans*.

At length, Mr. Dundas transmitted an order to him to quit the kingdom in fourteen days. He obeyed; and after taking leave of all his friends, repaired to Dover, and thence passed over to Calais. There he addressed himself to the municipality; and, being at once an energetic and able man, found means to interest some of the members of the legislature, then on mission, in his behalf. Accordingly, on his repairing to Paris, he was taken great notice of, and is at this moment a *juge de paix*; in which capacity, with an *eye* in his magisterial staff, as an emblem of penetration, he daily administers justice.

M. de la Touche is well known in London. He is rather fat, and of the middle size; his hair is grey, his complexion fresh and ruddy; he speaks good French with great fluency, was formerly accustomed to dress constantly in black, and gesticulates much during his conversation, and with considerable elegance and effect.

MIRABEAU, JUN.

Was the brother of the celebrated *orator of the same name, and the favourite son of the famous Mi-

* *Epigram on the elder Mirabeau.*

Un François amateur du beau,
Disoit hier à Mirabeau,
Tous vos décrets sont incroyables,
Vos orateurs inconcevables
Et vos assignats inpayables.

rabeau,

rabreau, the author of the treatise *L'Ami des Hommes*, of whom the French ladies were accustomed, after his quarrel with his countess, to say, that he could not pretend to be *l'ami des femmes*.

The younger, commonly called *Le Vicomte de Mirabeau*, was the darling of his father, who, in his will, exhibited a partiality to him, that bordered on injustice: the consequence was a law-suit, and a deadly enmity between the two children.

A similar contention took place relative to their politics: the one was the advocate of the people; the other of the king. The elder Mirabeau, at the commencement of his political career, seemed fitted for Rome and Athens in their best days; the younger, had he been a Greek by birth, would have left a country in which all were free, to become the snare of a Persian court, where all but a privileged class are slaves.

They were both men of strong passions. The one gave vent to his fiery temperament in the delirium of play, and a boundless attachment to the fair sex; the other, termed *tonneau*, a nick-name he had obtained from the resemblance of his body to a cask — (it was generally filled with the contents of one) — had recourse to the charms of the bottle, a vice always deemed disgraceful in France, and which indeed ought to be scouted in every civilized state.

While one brother was preparing the way for a commonwealth in his native country, the other was

sustaining the declining cause of *monarchy in Germany, at the head of a body of emigrants, termed *Les Chasseurs de Mirabeau*. When he once got into a tavern, he never left it until either the wine or his own credit was exhausted. This, joined to his corpulent habit, soon put an end to his existence; and his countrymen, as usual, made his death a subject of merriment, as may be seen from the following

“ Epitaph de Riquetti—Mirabeau—Tonneau.

“ Ci-gît Mirabeau la Futaille;
 “ Sancho Pança des éniérés;
 “ Ce héros d’estoc & de taille
 “ Fit maint exploits tous célébiés
 “ Par la noblesse & la pretraille.
 “ Hélas! ce rude champion,
 “ La surveillance d’une bataille,
 “ Frappe d’une indigestion,
 “ Gissant le long d’une muraille,
 “ A la porte d’une cabaret,
 “ Il rendit son dernier hoquet.”

* BOUFFEE D’ARISTOCRATIE.

“ Aux pieds de ce monument
 “ Ou le bon Henri respire
 “ Certain confélééré Normand
 “ S’arrête, contemple & soupire.
 “ Pris de cet eblême si cher
 “ Arrive Mirabeau—cravate;
 “ Impatient de s’épancher
 “ Avec le loyal démocrate,
 “ Vois, lui dit-il, brave étranger,
 “ Vois comme il nous regarde—
 “ Ah! s’il pouvoit marcher.”

The Viscount was allowed, even by his enemies, to have been a brave man, a qualification which even the friends of the orator could not always boast of in respect to him. Happening to be wounded in a duel, Mirabeau Tonneau received a visit of condolence from the patriot, and on his being about to depart, satirically observed to the latter, “ *Brother, I am afraid you will never permit me to return the compliment.”

COUTHON.

By viewing the conduct of this man in the latter part of his life only, it might easily be conceived that he was as cruel by nature as Sylla. This, however, was not the case ; for, till he had been corrupted by evil communication, he was admired for the amiableness of his manners.

His countenance, which was animated, denoted great susceptibility ; and, at the same time, exhibited signs of unusual benignity.

He enlisted under Robespierre, as Lucius Cornelius did under Marius ; and in consequence of the instructions of that able master, was qualifying apace to put as many of his fellow-creatures to death, by the despotism of the *law*, as those sanguinary generals had done by the edge of the *sword*. He preserved, however, during the first part of his political career, his reputation for the gentleness of his dispo-

* “ *Mon frère je vous remercia de votre vîst—elle est bien grotitue—car vous ne me mettrez jamais dans le cas de vous en rendre une pareille.*”

sition, and for the equity of his sentiments, inso-much that he was persuaded to assume the prenomen of *Aristides*, which a sentiment of vanity only could have prevailed upon him to do. He lacked, however, the generosity of the Athenian whose name he had borrowed, for he could not forgive even a supposed enemy ; but, like him, he appeared to disregard riches, as, after his execution, it was found that he had not left money sufficient behind him, to convey his wife and child to the place of her original residence !

GEORGE COUTHON,—Was a native of Osary, in the department of *Puy de Dôme*, for which he was elected a representative to the Convention. The first time he distinguished himself there, was during the proceedings against the twenty-one deputies, on whom his invectives fell with considerable weight.

He was the more attended to on this occasion by the assembly, from the circumstance of his being allowed to speak on his seat, being a cripple from his infancy. When, therefore, he wished to deliver an opinion, a member near him always addressed the president, saying, “ Couthon desires to be heard ; ” and he was perhaps the only member who never experienced any interruption.

The flattering approbation bestowed upon him by the minority, on account of the reproaches bestowed on the Girondists, marked him out to Robespierre as a fit person to interest in his designs, which were to
destroy

destroy all those men whose existence he conceived menaced his own. From the *dupe*, Couthon, in a short time, became the absolute *creature* of Robespierre: so that when the latter had any daring or odious measure to propose to the legislature, the former was thought the fittest person to communicate it.

The French Revolution has never ceased to produce striking events; but it appears unaccountable, that the same Convention which stood the most formidable shocks and dangers, as it were, unmoved, should become for a moment so tame and submissive, as to allow a committee, created entirely by themselves, to propose and obtain their sanction to a decree for accusing any of its members, and hurrying them to the tribunal, without the usual forms of impeachment; not to mention another decree, still more abominable, that of denying to imputed conspirators the benefit of counsel on their trials.

When the committee proceeded to these measures, every thinking man concluded the crisis of the revolutionary fever was approaching rapidly. By the manner in which the tyrants proceeded, it was impossible that any obnoxious person marked down for destruction, could escape, since the tribunal was forbidden to set any one at liberty, though acquitted by the jury, until a report was made to the committee, and its approbation obtained for the prisoner's enlargement.

The eighth of Thermidor decided the fate of the usurpers, and, it may be added, of the liberties of France; since, had any one of them possessed the

courage and presence of mind of a Cromwell, he might have triumphed over the Convention, and attained supreme power.

Couthon was almost immediately rescued from the Luxembourg prison, to which he had been committed; for it was impossible that his imprisonment could be concealed, since the distorted condition of his frame made it necessary to carry him from place to place in men's arms.

During the decisive struggle, the imbecility of Couthon's mind appeared as conspicuous as that of his body. He was seized in a closet, in the *Maison de Ville*, drowned in tears, with a knife in his hand, an instrument which he had not courage to make use of. The horror of his execution was increased by the difficulty of attaching him to the moving plank of the guillotine. The executioner was compelled, at last, to lay him on his side, to receive the stroke of the axe; such was the frightful contraction of his lower limbs. This shocking ceremony took up twice the time occupied in dispatching the other seven sufferers!

CHAMFORT.

If a want of the advantages of birth predispose us to favour a government which levels all family distinctions, no man could be born a republican more truly than Chamfort. He was the fruit of illicit love, and, as it should seem, of promiscuous amours; for he never knew his father—a circumstance which in no degree diminished his affection for his other parent,

parent, to supply whose wants he often denied himself the necessaries of life.

He was taken at a very early age into the *College des Grassins*, at Paris, in quality of *Bursar*,* and was known there by his Christian name of *Nicolas*. Nothing, during the two first years, announced extraordinary talents; but in the third, out of five prizes that were distributed annually, he bore away four, failing in Latin verses alone. The next year his success was complete; and he made a remark upon the occasion, which discovered good taste, a superior mind, and the opinion he entertained of the judges: "I lost the prize last year," said he, "because I imitated Virgil; this year I obtained it, because I took Buchanan, Sarbievius, and other moderns, for my guide."

In Greek he made a rapid progress; but his petulance, his wit, and his waggish tricks, threw the class into so much disorder, that he was expelled from it by M. Lebeau, the professor of that language; and not long after left the college altogether. Thrown upon the wide world, without friends or any means of support, he was soon reduced to the lowest pitch of poverty. He bore his misfortunes, however, with philosophic patience, and cheered himself with the most flattering hopes: "I am a poor devil now," said he to Selis, another man of letters; "but do you know what will happen? I shall obtain a prize from the academy, my play will succeed, I shall be courted by the world, and well received by the great,

* A kind of inferior usher, with a small stipend.

whom I despise: they will make my fortune for me, and I shall afterward live like a philosopher."

The first part of his prediction was soon verified. He obtained a prize, and sent a copy of his production to the very M. Lebeau who had expelled him from the Greek class, accompanied by the following note: "*Chamfort* sends the work that has obtained the suffrages of the Academy to his old and respectable master; and, at the end of nine years, begs his pardon for *Nicolas*." M. Lebeau made answer, "I always loved *Nicolas*; I admire *Chamfort*." A few days after they met, and the master and the pupil embraced each other with tears.

Nor was he deceived by his presentiment of his future fortune. By the cares and interest of his friends, it gradually swelled to eight or nine thousand livres a year; but the greatest part of it consisted of pensions, and the whirlwind of the revolution swept them away. The day after they were suppressed, he went to see his fellow-academician, Marmontel, and found him lamenting the loss that his children would suffer by the same decree. Chamfort took one of them upon his knees: "Come here, my little fellow," said he, "you will be a better man than either of us. Some day or other you will weep over your father, on hearing that he had the weakness to weep over you, because he feared that you might not be so rich as himself."

That meteor that rose in the French Revolution, rushed through the political system like a comet, and disappeared in the midst of the long surprise and un-

easy admiration it excited—Mirabeau, in short, was the friend of Chamfort, and often borrowed his pen. The most eloquent passages in the *Letters on the Order of Cincinnatus* belong to the latter. He was, indeed, his counsel upon all occasions; and when Mirabeau went to pass an hour with him, as was his custom in the morning, he used to call it going to rub the most electrical head he had ever met with.

The light emitted by this electrical head could not fail to shine in opposition to the blasting rays of the mock sun of liberty—of the felon Robespierre—to whom talents and virtue were alike obnoxious.

It was difficult, however, to lay hold on Chamfort. Frank, upright, decided, and independent of all parties, he had steered a steady course through the revolutionary storm; openly professing an equal hatred of priests and nobles, and of Marat and the rest of the men of blood. At the same time that he was the author of the saying, “*Guerre aux châteaux, paix aux chaumières*,”* he explained, by the appellation of the *fraternity of Cain and Abel*, the compulsive system of fraternization, devised by the Jacobin Club.

At length, however, an obscure informer was found to denounce him, and Chamfort was carried to the Madelonnettes. Unable to obtain there the attentions, and the occasional solitude that some habitual infirmities imperiously required, he conceived so profound a horror of imprisonment, that when he was suffered to return, a few days after, to his apart-

* War to the palace, peace to the cottage.

ments, under the custody of a guard, he swore he would rather die than be immured anew.

In a little more than a month, the gendarme told him he had orders to carry him back to a house of confinement. Chamfort retired to a closet, under the pretence of making his preparations; fired a pistol at his head; shattered the bones of his nose; and drove in his right eye. Astonished at finding himself alive, and resolved to die, he took up a razor, tried to cut his throat, and mangled the flesh in the most dreadful manner. The weakness of his hand made no change in the resolution of his mind: he attempted several times, in vain, to reach his heart with the same instrument; and finding himself begin to faint, made a last effort to open the veins at his knees. At length, overcome by pain, he uttered a loud cry, and fell almost lifeless into a chair.

The door was broken open, and surgeons and civil officers soon repaired to the spot. While the former were preparing dressings for so many wounds, Chamfort dictated to the latter the following truly Roman declaration: "I, Sebastian Roch Nicholas Chamfort, declare it was my intention to die a freeman, rather than to be carried back, like a slave, to a house of confinement. I declare, moreover, that if violence be used to carry me thither in the state I am in, I have still strength enough to finish what I have begun."

An hour or two after, he became perfectly calm, and resumed his usual ironical manner. "See what it is," said he, "to want dexterity; an awkward man

cannot even kill himself." He then went on to relate how he had *perforated* his eye, and the lower part of his forehead, instead of blowing out his brains; *scored* his throat, instead of cutting it; and *scarified* his breast, without reaching his heart. "At last," added he, "I recollected Seneca; and in honour of Seneca, I resolved to open my veins; but Seneca was a rich man; he had a warm bath, and every thing to his wish: I am a poor miserable devil, and have none of the same advantages; I have hurt myself horribly, and here I am still."

Not one of the multitude of wounds he had made was mortal. Strange as it may appear, they were even attended by beneficial consequences. By giving vent to an internal humour that had long preyed upon his constitution, they restored him to a state of health he had been a stranger to for years; and Chamfort might now have been alive, if, when his wounds were closed, the surgeons had given issue to that humour by other means. But they neglected the precaution, and this amiable and courageous character was soon after seized with a mortal disease.

COLLOT D'HERBOIS,

A comedian on the stage, a tragedian in power. This same *Collot*, as he was familiarly called by the Parisians, is assuredly one of the most extraordinary men the present age has witnessed. After throwing off the *sock*, and taking his leave of two or three excellent theatrical pieces, in which he himself had acted, he repaired to Paris; and being possessed of a good figure,

figure, a strong voice, great energy, wonderful intrepidity, and uncommon address, he speedily became one of the oracles of the Jacobin Club.

From this society he obtained the prize for the best Manuel of Liberty, by his "*Almanac du Père Gerard*."*

It was the fashion, at one time, to idolize Lafayette, and call him (*le père*) the father of the revolution; but Collot, who affirmed he had been intriguing with the queen, out of mere enmity to M. d'Egalité, contrived to get him called its *step-father*; (*le beau-père*) and this was no trifling achievement in the time of civil contention; for, at Paris, and even in London, much is done by means of a *sobriquet*, or nick-name.

On the first day of the meeting of the Convention, he was the member who moved for the abolition of Royalty; which motion was seconded by Grégoire, and carried by acclamation. On the trial of the King, he was perched on the very *summit of the Mountain*, being placed next to Robespierre. During the contest between the two parties, it was he who denounced and proscribed the Girondists. When the crimes of Robespierre had attained their full growth of enormity, it was Collot, who, on the 9th of Ther-

* This happened on the 23d of October, 1791. The judges who decided on the merits of the respective candidates were Grégoire, Condorcet, Polverel, Clavierre, Lanthenas, and Dufauly. The report was made by Dufauly, after which Collot was embraced by the president, who at the same time crowned him with a wreath of laurel.

midor, as president of the Convention, joined Barrere in impeaching and punishing him !

Collot d'Herbois was the most active member of the famous Committee of Public Safety. Such was the excess of his zeal in what he conceived to be the service of his country, that he was known to pass fifteen days and nights successively, at the office of the Committee, without leaving it even for the purposes of sleep and refreshment. His dinner frequently consisted only of a slice of bread and butter. He was the most vehement of the Jacobin party, and the most bloody of the Terrorists. His conduct, on numerous occasions, justly procured him the epithet of *Tiger-Collot*. From his firing upon the Royalists at Lyons, with grape-shot from cannon, he was also called *le mitrailleur*.

In consequence of unsheathing the sword of the exterminating angel at Lyons, he experienced a kind of modern *ostracism* ; but, instead of a punishment, it was a triumph, for he had not been a week at Cayenne, before he was actually said to have possessed a greater share of authority in the settlement than the governor himself. He has even been lately denounced by one of the colonial deputies, as *le roi de Cayenne*, but no attention whatever was paid to the observation.

After appearing in such a variety of different characters, this singular man, whatever may be his final catastrophe, has insured to himself a niche in the Temple of History ; and, if ever his atrocious massacres in the south be forgotten, his memory will, perhaps,

perhaps, be honoured, and even revered ; for he must be allowed to have been one of the founders of the French Republic, and also one of its most strenuous supporters. He has several times been reported to have been dead,* but we believe this rumour has no foundation in truth. He is about fifty years of age.

GENERAL MARCEAU.

Among the innumerable calamities incident to warfare, one, and that too not the least lamentable, is the premature death of many of those illustrious men who smooth the rugged surface of a state, deemed, by philosophers, little better than *legalized murder*; and, in some measure, recompence human nature for the multiplied miseries to which she is unnaturally subjected. The present contest exhibits numerous instances of this kind, in the armies of all the belligerent powers ; and in none more particularly than in the person of him who is the subject of this memoir.

* The following article appeared in one of the Paris newspapers, on October 7th, 1796 :

“ The infamous Collot d’Herbois has at length terminated his execrable career at Cayenne. He was carried off by a violent illness, which generally attacks those who do not feel the least indisposition on their first arrival in that climate, and against which no remedy has as yet been discovered.

“ A few days before his death, he made another attempt to possess himself of the authority of a Dictator at Cayenne, and to stir up an insurrection among the negroes ; but his projects having failed of success, he was thrown into a dungeon, and there perished.”

General

General Marceau was born in 1769, and was consequently but twenty years old at the commencement of the Revolution. In common with almost every Frenchman not of the *privileged orders*, and, to their honour be it spoken, of many also born within the *pale of nobility*, he felt that his country was enslaved, and rejoiced at the prospect of beholding the liberties of his nation vindicated.*

On the impolitic intervention of the Emperor Leopold, Marceau burned to revenge what he deemed the *insult* offered to the independence of France. He accordingly entered into the army, and made his first campaign in Brabant: Mirabeau repented until the last moment of his existence, that he had drawn his maiden-sword against the free-born Corsicans; while this young warrior, on the other hand, and all the patriots of that day, gloried in the prospect of rescuing the Flemings from what they were pleased to term *the iron yoke of Austria*.

After fighting under a *constitutional King*, a new epoch occurred in the history of France and of Europe, and the army which had acquired nothing but disgrace under a feeble and wavering representative of monarchy, in the person of Louis XVI. following the memorable example of the camp at Maulde, readily swore obedience to the commonwealth.—The youthful hero perceived that the happiness, at

* It may be necessary to remark here, that on this and all similar occasions, the *blame* attached to the *old government* ought not to be tortured so as to produce an inference, of any *praise* being conveyed respecting the new.

least the glory of France, as well as his own advancement, were intimately connected with the change: he was thus attached to the new government, both by patriotism and ambition, which will be allowed to be no common motives, in the history either of nations or individuals.

In addition to this, he was friendly, even by education, to the transition, for he had just come from the schools where, notwithstanding the advice of Hobbes, after the civil war in England, a monastic order still condescended to teach the classics; and with them, unwillingly infused a portion of that kindred spirit, which illuminated and dignified the histories of Greece and Italy.

The struggles of Athens and of Rome for liberty were thus familiar to him; and the crimes and expulsion of the Tarquin race pointed out, and, in a nearly similar situation, sanctioned, in his mind, the excision of the dynasty of the Bourbons. With principles such as these, added to dauntless intrepidity, unabating exertion, and military skill, it is not to be wondered that his rise was rapid, and his promotion certain.

Soon after the breaking out of the war of La Vendée, by far the most calamitous of any that has occurred in modern times, Marceau was sent thither with the rank of general of brigade. There he had to contend, not against discipline, such as he afterwards encountered during two campaigns on the banks of the Rhine, but something infinitely more terrible—it was fanaticism, which, clad in canvass
and

and wooden shoes, and armed at first with nothing more formidable than clubs and pikes, encountered and defeated veteran troops. Such were "the royal and catholic armies," the "avengers of the crown," the "league of Jesus," the "band of the holy and immaculate Virgin;" names that but feebly imply the superstition of the sturdy and ignorant peasantry who composed them. Against such enemies, it was almost impossible to succeed in an offensive war; and, indeed, they were never completely overthrown, until other means were employed for their subjugation. Yet, notwithstanding this, such was the reputation of young Marceau, that he was appointed, in the 25th year of his age, as general in chief, *ad interim*, of the army employed against the insurgents in *La Vendée*; and Turreau, whom he superseded, bears ample testimony to his merit, in his "*Memoires*," although a misunderstanding actually subsisted between them.

At the period we are now treating of, there were no less than three commanders in chief, and three intermediate ones, nominated within the space of three months; some of whom exchanged the *baton* for the *axe*, and were dragged from their own head-quarters to the scaffold. Marceau was more fortunate. On the appointment of a superior officer, he was invited to repair to the army of the North, which happened at that critical period to be earning laurels on the frozen waters of the Rhine, the Waal, and the Polders, and canals of Holland, under the famous Pichegru.

It is not a little memorable, that the joint ages of these youthful commanders, did not at that time exceed fifty-seven, a time of life, which, before this eventful period, scarcely entitled a soldier to become a *hero*: it is to be observed also, that the Prince de Cobourg, Duke of Brunswick, generals Wurmser, Beaulieu, and, in short, all the veterans, grown hoary under arms, have been beaten by schoolboys, like these!

The success of this army was truly astonishing; and it is, in a great measure, to be attributed to the enthusiasm of the legislators deputed to superintend its actions; they kindled a congenial spirit around them, and acquired a popularity highly beneficial. Among other instances, it is sufficient only to observe, that they were accessible to all, lived in public, and actually placed the following inscription, in letters of gold, on the front of the house which they inhabited: “*Nous voudrions que la maison des représentans du peuple fut de verre, pour que le peuple pût être témoin de toutes leurs actions.*” *

On the dismissal of Pichegru, Marceau served under Jourdan, assisted at the brilliant and rapid passage of the Rhine, which, in the age of Louis XIV, had been celebrated by means of poems and medals,

* “We wish that the house inhabited by the representatives of the people were composed of glass, that the people themselves might behold all their actions.”

It must be allowed by every body, that this inscription has the air of *gasconade*; but on the other hand, it cannot be doubted, that it was admirably suited for the people, and the occasion, and contributed not a little to produce the effect intended.

and

and then penetrated, with the army of the Sambre and Meuse, into the heart of Germany. During the memorable and fatal retreat that succeeded, he was entrusted with the rear guard, which, on such occasions, is considered as a post of honour. In this situation, whilst covering the army in its retrograde motion through the dangerous defiles of Altenkerchen, and acting at once the part of a soldier and a general, he exposed himself to the too certain aim of a Tyrolese marksman, and, like our Hampden, during the civil wars, was pierced by an obscure hand, in the field of battle, and fell lamented even by the enemy*.

It

* Here follows the German account of the death and burial of this celebrated Frenchman :

“ General Marceau was wounded on the 19th of September (1796) : he died two days after.—He was in his 27th year. Several battles gained in La Vendée, and two skilful campaigns on the banks of the Rhine, had obtained him a distinguished rank among the most eminent commanders in the present war.

“ On the retreat by Sieg, he was charged with covering the rear, and keeping the enemy in check, while the French column defiled by Altenkirchen. It was there he received his death-wound.

“ Some chasseurs were skirmishing in a wood with the Austrian hussars. Marceau, accompanied by a few *orderlies*, and a single officer, entered, in order to reconnoitre. On this, one of the Tyrolian chasseurs (esteemed the best marksmen in Germany), who was concealed behind a tree, perceiving the badge of his rank, aimed at, and shot him through the body. Marceau retired a few paces, after receiving the wound, and fell from his horse.

“ He was then carried along the column, supported by grenadiers ;

It is here necessary to do justice to the generous pity of the Germans, and particularly of Generals Haddick and Kray; the first of whom ordered him to be conveyed, according to his own request, to a neighbouring village, while the latter shed tears over a gallant rival, whom he had so often combated. The Archduke Charles, himself, sent his surgeon to attend him; but on the fifth complimentary day, the symptoms betokened an approaching dissolution, and he expired, at six o'clock, in the 27th year of his age!

The regiments of Barco and Blackenstein contended for the honour of paying him the last duties. The French officers insisted on his being buried within the territory occupied by the Republic, and

diers; the liveliest grief spread through all ranks: General Jourdan and a crowd of officers surrounded him: all shed tears.—Marceau alone maintained tranquillity, as if resolved to brave death.

“When he was about to be removed to the left bank of the Rhine, he requested to remain at Altenkirchen, with the Prussian *Commandant*. The following day the Austrians took possession of Altenkirchen; and as soon as General Haddick was informed of this circumstance, he sent a guard to Marceau, and General Kray himself went to see him.

“This brave old warrior wept on beholding him.—He had been opposed to Marceau during the two last years.

“The first surgeon of Prince Charles attended him, in consequence of his Royal Highness's special orders, and every possible care was bestowed; but notwithstanding this, he died on the morning of the 21st.

“The body of General Marceau was buried in one of the bastions of the entrenched camp of Coblenz, amidst the complimentary fire of both armies.”

the Emperor's brother consented: annexing, however, the generous condition, that the Austrians should be apprised of the time when the ceremony commenced, that they might join in the military honours paid to him.

Thus, two hostile armies, with muffled drums, arms reversed, and joint discharges of artillery, celebrated the interment of Marceau, in the entrenched camp at Coblentz, and paid a glorious testimony to a man, whose memory, like that of his countryman, the Chevalier Bayard, will ever be dear to Frenchmen, and who, like him, will be deemed a soldier,

“ *Sans peur, & sans reproche* *.”

JEAN BON ST. ANDRE.

This deputy, whom the Royalists jocularly term *Jambon* de St. André, was, prior to the revolution, a Protestant minister. His imagination caught fire on the first grand collision of opinions, relative to the rights of the *tiers état* to vote according to numbers, in the States-General, and he became a decided patriot.

He was elected a deputy to the Convention, and was soon discovered to be what the French then denominated *à l'hauteur des circonstances*. He was one of a considerable number of representatives who met every Sunday, at the house of a female patriot near the *Place de Victoire*; to compare notes, as it were, at leisure, out of the heat of the debate, and to express their opinions and apprehensions concerning the

* Without fear, and without reproach.

two domineering, though nearly balanced parties, of Robespierre and Danton. Couthon, Julien de Thoulouze, Cloutz, and Breard, formed part of these, and were at that time considered as a kind of *neutral squad*, although Republicans of the *deepest dye*. Robespierre, however, soon afterwards, enlisted Couthon and St. André, and posted them in his *own company*. With these, and other *recruits*, he was at length enabled to attack Danton, and by the use of three cabalistic words—*an Orleans faction*, he, in the sequel, brought him to the scaffold. At this last period, St. André was a member of the Committee of Public Safety, but happened to be on mission, first at Toulon, and afterwards at Brest, and absent from the Convention at the time the jealousy of the tyrant completely destroyed his rivals in popularity, and also those who had adhered to them.

St. André was not supposed to possess much skill in nautical affairs; it was confessed, however, by every one, that he thoroughly *sans-culottised* the sailors of the port of Brest, who, otherwise, might have followed the example of those at Toulon. He also embarked on board the fleet which sailed on the important and hazardous enterprise of meeting and convoying the large provision fleet expected from America. He was on the deck of *La Montagne*, a first rate, on the first day of the famous engagement which took place on the first of June; but, being wounded in the arm in the course of the action, he removed into a frigate on the second day, and, in consequence, his reputation for courage suffered
some

some injury. It is even said that during the conflict, the frigate having occasion to engage with another belonging to the enemy, St. André, who was then in the cockpit with the surgeon, asked one of the boys, employed in carrying powder, how the action went on? "You had better (said the young sailor) go upon deck, if you would know with certainty."

The event of this battle was peculiarly unfavourable to the naval honour of France, though it saved the American convoy, consisting of two hundred and thirty ships, deeply laden with corn, and other necessities of life, which were much wanted at that time in France. Nevertheless, the loss of six ships of the line was a mortifying circumstance to the pride of the otherwise elated Republicans; and, therefore, it is no wonder if strict justice should not be done to this commissioner in the decision of the public concerning his merits.

St. André went out of the Convention, by ballot, to make room for the new third, and after that period took as little share in the public affairs of his country, as a man, once in the vortex of them, can be supposed capable of*.

One

* Jean Bon St. André has been sent on mission to the Dey of Algiers; and it was lately reported, that having endeavoured to *revolutionize* and *republicanize* his Highness's subjects, he had ordered him to be arrested, and after levying contributions on all the French resident within his territories, commanded the execu-

One circumstance greatly to the credit of his integrity, ought to be mentioned, it is, that he lives with as much simplicity and plainness as if he had never quitted his native village; and is reputed to be not ten pounds richer, notwithstanding his salary as a Deputy of the Convention, and his influence as a commissioner or *consul*, as he was called, than before he commenced his public career. This virtue of self-denial has, indeed, been very justly ascribed to the whole of the members of that powerful Committee of Public Safety of which Robespierre and St. André once formed a part.

Had they been but as cautious of shedding human blood, as averse to the accumulation of riches, the gratitude of their country, and the applause of posterity, must have formed their just reward.

BAILLY.

The fate of this great man is truly lamentable, not merely because he addicted himself to learning, and was distinguished for his love of, and knowledge in, the sciences, but, as being a patriot, in the full sense of the word; this, indeed, he proved himself to be, even before the Revolution; by which event he lost some valuable places, and almost the whole of his fortune.

Jean Sylvain Bailly was born at Paris, on the

tioner to strike off his head, which sentence was carried into effect before the Dey's palace, &c.

This story, improbable as it was, actually obtained credit for some time!

15th of September, 1736. His family, during nearly a century and a half, had followed painting as a profession ; and the disease which proved fatal to his grandfather, proceeded from an attachment to his art, it being occasioned by some experiments on marble with pigments, which he himself had brought from China.

Young Bailly was also destined to be a painter*, and had actually made some progress ; but as he exhibited a marked predilection to *Belles Lettres*, he did not cultivate the powers of the pencil with that assiduity which could alone have ensured celebrity.—Poetry, in particular, engaged and fascinated his attention ; he even produced some tragedies which were praised by Lanouë, who however advised him to turn the bent of his thoughts towards the sciences.

His friend Mademoiselle Lejeuneux, at length introduced him to Lacaille, and this circumstance contributed not a little to direct his attention to the study of Natural Philosophy. Accordingly, in the year 1762, he presented “ Observations on the Moon,” to the French Academy, drawn up under the inspection of the former.

His reputation at length became so considerable, that he was deemed a proper candidate for the office of Secretary to the Academy of Sciences, which, however, in 1771, was bestowed on Condorcet. In

* In a biographical work, in 2 vols. 8vo. just published, among many other gross errors, the father of Bailly is said to have been a wine merchant, and he himself is described as first intended for the church, and then bred to the bar !

1784, he was recompensed by the French Academy, having at that period been appointed the successor of Tieffan.

During the same year, he was nominated one of the Natural Philosophers who assembled, in order to report on the Animal Magnetism of Mesmer, as practised by Deslon; and soon attained a high degree of reputation, in consequence of his various scientific publications.

M. Bailly, after distinguishing himself as an astronomer* and philosopher, was elected a deputy for the *tiers état* to the States-General, and was President of the first National Assembly, at the time the King's proclamation, issued the 20th of June, 1789, ordered it to disperse. On that memorable occasion, when the Legislative Body was excluded from the

* His History of Astronomy, in 5 vols. 4to, obtained him great reputation throughout all Europe. His Theory of the Satellites of Jupiter was still more prized by scientific men; and Jerome Lalande, one of the first astronomers of the present day, and who at this moment presides over the National Observatory at Paris, was so much pleased with the paper on the light emitted from the satellites of Jupiter, inserted in the proceedings of the Academy of Sciences, in 1771, that he afterwards told the Author, while in the height of his glory, "that he would have rather composed that memoir, than been President of the States General." "For," added he, "there are assuredly many citizens worthy of being Mayor of Paris, or of filling the chair of the National Assembly, but there are not ten men in all Europe capable of writing such a dissertation as that; it will therefore, of course, become a more certain passport to the notice of posterity."

Senate-house, by royal order and a military force, he invited the members to assemble in the Tennis-court, situated in the *Rue du Vieux Versailles*. It was there he dictated the oath "to resist tyrants and tyranny, and never to separate till a free Constitution should be obtained for the French people."

On the 14th of the succeeding month, the famous, or rather infamous, Bastille was attacked by the Parisians, headed by a few national guards.

It being necessary after this event, that the affairs of the capital should be well administered, especially as the apprehensions of a famine rendered that period more critical, Bailly was unanimously called upon to undertake that important task. He continued a favourite of the Parisians, among whom he was born, till the unhappy affair of the *Champ de Mars*, where the crowd assaulting the soldiery, for enforcing what was considered an unjust order, the latter were directed by the magistracy, of which Bailly was the chief, to fire on the former; on which occasion about forty citizens were killed, and three times that number wounded*.

This

* His friend Jerome Lalande discusses that unfortunate affair as follows:

"The most disagreeable part of his (Bailly's) administration, and the most fatal in its effects, occurred on the 17th of July 1792, when the party in opposition to the monarchical constitution excited commotions among the people, which he was obliged to quell, by order of the National Assembly.

"He was accordingly forced to repair to the *Champ de Mars*, where, notwithstanding the utmost precaution, some muskets

This compulsory act of Bailly, termed in the new French vocabulary *populicide*, was unhappily treasured up in the invidious memory of his rivals and enemies, ready to be brought forward against him at the moment most favourable to his undoing.

Among the papers belonging to Louis XVI. which were found both at the house of Laporte, and in the iron chest of the Thuilleries, some of them contained attacks on Bailly, and endeavoured to place him in a ridiculous point of view (*see Cazotte's Letters*). Talon says in one, "Sire, if you make such sacrifices, Bailly will come and deliver a fine harangue to you." Others, and those of the date of 1791, remark, "the mayor of Paris shall be managed so as to prevent him from giving us any further trouble." A few insist on the necessity of taking off his head.

When he found he had fallen into the disfavour of his fellow-citizens, he hoped to preserve himself by retiring into privacy, where he proposed to finish a treatise on statics, which he had begun; but the crisis of the revolution approached fast, and a severe retrospective eye was cast, not only upon every act that favoured of the abuse of power, but also upon every person who affected to *chastise* the people for excesses which long-continued oppression had forced them into.

were discharged at the crowd. For this act, two years afterwards, his head was demanded, when the only object of the reigning tyrant was to flatter the people, to indulge its passions, and even to exceed its resentments."

To discover a faulty fugitive, or a denounced person, at this period, was to merit public applause. The ex-mayor was accordingly denounced, apprehended in an obscure country-house, and, by a melancholy reverse of fortune, was conducted a prisoner for examination to that very Hôtel de Ville where he had presided, two years before, with almost sovereign authority, and into which he never entered but amid the loud acclamations of *Vive Bailly!*

It is known that he was named and inculpated in the act of accusation directed against Marie Antoinette, which contains the following passage: "It is manifest, from the declaration of Louis Charles Capet, and of the girl Capet, that Lafayette, a favourite of the widow Capet, and Bailly, then mayor, were present at the flight from the palace of the Thuilleries, and that they favoured it with all their power."

But the testimony of the queen overthrew that of the children; and Bailly proved not only an *alibi*, but even brought facts in evidence, from which it appeared, that he had mentioned to Lafayette the communications he had received, and likewise his own apprehensions: upon which he was assured by the General, "that all was so secure, that a mouse could not get out of the palace."

Some days before the flight of the king, M. Simolin, the Russian ambassador, applied to him for a passport for the Baroness de Knoff; but considering that a passport for a foreigner ought to be delivered

by the Minister for Foreign Affairs, he referred the Russian ambassador to that minister. On this subject, therefore, there was not the slightest ground for crimination.

Bailly was interrogated respecting certain private meetings, said to have been held at the Thuilleries, and composed of intriguers and members of the Constituent Assembly, such as Mirabeau, Barnave, Lameth, &c.; his connexion with Lafayette was likewise adduced against him, and also his having been at some meetings at La Rochefaucault's; but the capital charge was the affair of the Champ de Mars.

He was first committed to the *ci-devant* monastery of the *Madelonnettes*, then converted into a state prison; and what will scarcely appear credible, his fellow prisoners themselves made application to the Committee of General Safety to have him removed thence, under the alleged apprehension of the popular fury setting fire to the building, from a desire of summary vengeance. It ought, however, to be known, that those who made this application for his removal, were chiefly accused Nobles and suspected Aristocrats, who were always eager to precipitate the destruction of the first movers of the Revolution.

Bailly was accordingly transferred to the *Conciergerie*, and in four days after found himself on the *sellette**, where he heard his condemnation (for trial it cannot be called) in a manner consistent with his character as a great philosopher. His execution took

* The stool on which criminals were formerly placed.

place the next day, November 12, 1793. He was compelled to wear the *red shirt*, the ignominious badge intended for conspirators against liberty only; and the sentence was executed in the *Champ de Mars*, near the spot where he gave the order for the military to fire upon the populace.

The rain poured on his bald head the whole way to the fatal spot; and as so much wet had rendered the ground boggy, and the scaffold happened to be fixed in too swampy a position to bear the weight, it became necessary to remove the apparatus to a higher spot, while the unhappy sufferer was waiting the approaching catastrophe.

Many cruel indignities were offered to him, and the bloody flag was repeatedly waved in his face. As he was observed to shudder while ascending the platform, a bye-stander, with the view to insult him, cried out "*Tu trembles, Bailly!*" he answered, "*Oui, mais non pas de peur.*" The truth is, his teeth chattered with the cold.

M. Bailly was in his 57th year. His complexion was of a healthy hue; he stooped a little in his shoulders, and greatly resembled Mr. Dundas in the form of his face, and especially in the prominence of the cheek-bones. His *Oriental Astronomy* contains a severe attack on the Mosaic chronology*.

GENERAL

* Madame Bailly survives her husband. Her maiden name was Jeanne le Seigneur, and she was the widow of his intimate friend Raymond Gaye, when he married her in 1787, at a period, according to the eulogist of the deceased astronomer, when she

GENERAL DAMPIERRE,

Was a friend to equality*, though in possession of a large fortune; and a determined republican, though the title of Count had been handed down to him by a long series of ancestors. He prayed for the revolution, while the old government was yet in the plenitude of its power; and hailed it when it came and swept away the privileges and the distinctions he himself enjoyed.

Two or three years before the convocation of the States-General, he was captain in the regiment of Chartres, of which the Duke of Orleans was colonel, and M. de Valence major. At that time the

he was of an age proper to inspire the regard and attachment of a man of worth, who was not to be influenced by the ordinary motives of beauty or fortune, especially since he had eight nephews, whom he educated with all the care of a father.

“In person,” adds he, “Bailly was tall, of a sedate but striking countenance; and his mind, though firm, possessed much sensibility. His disinterestedness was frequently, and in a very eminent manner, exhibited towards his relations; and during his magistracy, he expended a considerable part of his income in administering to the necessities of the poor.

“Few men of letters have so eminently distinguished themselves in so many different ways, and no one has ever united so many titles to respect, with such general applause. But his highest and greatest fame is derived from his virtue, which always remained unblemished, unsuspected, and admired.

“Those who knew him the best loved him the most, and in his own family he was almost adored.”

* It is almost unnecessary to observe, that *equality of rights* is alone alluded to here.

mouth of the Bastille was always open to receive the persons of rank who opened their's too freely ; but, in spite of its terrors, and of the remonstrances of their brother officers, both Dampierre and the major were loud in the praise of freedom, and liberal of invective against the abuses of government, not only at the regimental messes, but in companies more public still.

The emigrations that took place at an early part of the revolution, ensured a rapid promotion to every friend of freedom, and to every man of talent who stood fast by his colours. Dampierre, accordingly, soon rose to the rank of major-general (*maréchal de camp*), and in that quality commanded the van-guard of Dumouriez's army, at the battle of Gemappe.—The attack of the village of that name fell to his share ; and there it was that the action was the most desperate and destructive. By the boldness of his charge, and by the coolness with which he formed the national guards, under a most furious and steady fire from the veteran legions of Austria, he acquired the praise of courage, and of military skill. This praise he indeed laid claim to, in his printed *Relation of the Conduct of the Vanguard*, with a frankness which would be vanity in any one but a Frenchman.—“How much I wished you there,” says he, apostrophising Sirven, his master in tactics, “in order to have witnessed the regularity and precision with which I reduced my columns, and formed my line, in the presence of the enemy.”

Unseduced by the example of his old comrade,
Valence,

Valence, who joined Dumouriez in his attempt to march to Paris, and imitated him in his subsequent flight, Dampierre adhered firmly to the principles he professed. He did not permit himself to despair of the Republic ; on the contrary, he exerted himself in restoring order and confidence to the army, with a zeal and diligence that deserved and obtained the chief command. He did not enjoy it long. At the battle, or rather at the retreat of Famars, he adventured so near to the enemy, for the purpose of reconnoitring, that he was marked out as a distinguished personage by the English gunners, and was struck with a cannon shot, which carried away his thigh. He survived but a few hours, and breathed his last sigh, May 8, 1793, in wishes for the safety of the Republic.

There was something uncommon in the composition of Dampierre's body and mind. His complexion was saturnine ; his disposition sanguine in the extreme : he was corpulent and heavy in his person ; in his manner and conversation he was more lively than even Frenchmen generally are, though subject at the same time to mental absences, which, even in a thoughtful Englishman, would have appeared ridiculous and strange.

His principles of liberty he drew from England, and English books ; and spoke and wrote our language with tolerable ease.

Dampierre died the death of a soldier. Had he lived to see the reign of Robespierre, the first reverse of fortune he might have met with, added to the original

ginal sin of noble birth, would, no doubt, have conveyed him, like a felon, to the scaffold.

DAVID.

Nature, or rather disease, incapacitates David from being an orator. A frightful tumified cheek has not only distorted his features to a great degree, but, at the same time, disqualified the organs of speech from uttering ten words in the same tone of voice ; so that a grave subject, in his mouth, notwithstanding his sensibility, loses all its dignity. At best, therefore, he is only able to give a silent vote.

It is our business rather to speak of him as a deputy, than as a painter, otherwise we might exhibit his admirable piece of the *Horatii*, a painting of itself capable of immortalizing him as an artist. His sketch of the States-General in the tennis-court at Versailles, is deserving of no less praise, since considered as an extempore performance, it exhibits an undeniable proof of his prompt invention, and unequalled talents.

David, having already enrolled himself a Jacobin, was elected to the Convention, by the department of Paris. The *Mountain*, as it was called, had been long growing hot with the volcanic matter about to burst forth, and sweep away all opposition. The *lava* did at last break out ; it carried the Brissotines along with it, and David approached nearer and nearer the *crater*, that he might, in some measure, direct its direful course : in short, he accepted the office of a member of the committee of *general surety*, while it acted

acted in concert with the other committee of government, the measures of both which were, for a considerable time, directed by the spirit of Robespierre.

It must nevertheless be acknowledged, in justice to David, that, before he consented to destroy one party, he endeavoured to procure a reconciliation. He had apartments allowed him, in quality of an artist, in the *old Louvre Palace*, and there he would collect an assemblage of persons distinguished for their public spirit, or private worth, and contrive to draw into this agreeable vortex, men of different opinions and sentiments, with a view to soften their animosity to each other, by making each acquainted with the more amiable qualities of his antagonist. This proved a vain effort; for however civil Vergniaud, Montault, Guadet, and Phillippeaux might appear in the *salon* of a friend, they evinced no less violence against each other in the *salle de la nation*, which, very soon after this period, became an *arena* for gladiators to exercise their strength or their skill in. At length the decision on the King's fate broke up David's parties entirely, and for ever separated those of dissimilar opinions.

The *appel au peuple** was considered by the *ardent Republicans* as an invocation of national wrath, and therefore no terms were to be kept with, no mercy was to be shown to the *appellants*. This is the precise moment when those who had neither personal

* "The Appeal to the People," a measure resorted to by the Brissotines, to save, or at least to delay the fate of Louis XVI.

regard nor public esteem for Marat, impelled him to many extravagant acts, and to the most wild and inconsiderate declarations. Marat was the political *lever*, and the public hatred to monarchy, from the discoveries of the vices of the court, the *fulcrum* by which Archimedes-Robespierre turned the weight of the whole republican world upon its first founders, thus crushing them to atoms.

The assiduous David did not wholly throw away his *pallette*, he found time to take it up at leisure hours, and employed it to pourtray the assassination of Lepelletier by Paris, and of Marat by Charlotte Corday; and these two pictures he made a present of to the Convention. They were hung up over the President's tribune, in which position it is not difficult to conceive that they produced the greatest possible effect.

David was intimately connected with Robespierre: it was he who said, *if I love blood, it is because nature has given me the disposition*. He went, on the third of September, to see the execution of his friends and colleagues—Desmoulins and Danton. The deputy Reboul saw David, at the very moment when the mob were massacring the prisoners at La Force, tranquilly drawing a picture of the dying, as they were heaped up on the pile of the dead. "What are you doing there, David?" said he. "*I am catching,*" replied the painter, "*the last emotion of nature in these scoundrels.*" "Go," replied Reboul, "you affect me with horror; I could not conceive that you were capable of such barbarity. What a pity it is, that such great talents should be united to
so

so corrupt a heart ; it might have been expected, that the fine arts would have softened the most obdurate soul !”

After the death of Chabot, Fabre d'Eglantine, and the rest of that *bachis*, as they were called (for the French are always French, and must joke and pun), the time of David was wholly absorbed in Robespierre's actions, if not in his views. He says he was egregiously deceived in him ; but when that ambitious and cruel usurper made his last speech in the hall of the Jacobins, complaining of the inimical power rising up, in the committees of government, against him, and alluding to the case of Socrates, saying, “ I shall drink the hemlock !” David advanced to the tribune, and exclaimed—“ I also will drink it with thee.”

These words were as strong, and nearly as fatal to him, as the hand-writing on the wall of Balhazzar's palace ; but he had favourable interpreters. The Convention while they condemned his devotion to the tyrant, conceived him *passively* not *active*ly guilty, they accordingly recollected his talents, and the service he had rendered the Republic by his exertion of them.

On the memorable day of denunciation, therefore, while Robespierre, his brother, Couthon, and St. Just, were arrested in the Convention, and carried, in a few hours, to execution, David's looked-for sentence was respited, that an examination of some circumstances he had urged in his favour might take place.

He lay in the Luxembourg eleven weeks. The
acerbity

acerbity of his enemies' minds in the mean time grew blunted, the public had half forgotten the mischiefs of the *decemviri*, the nation had recovered its hopes, and tasted of victory, and in this happy state of the capital and of all France, David escaped, and is at this time, one of the members of the *National Institute*: an honour to which his unparalled skill and judgment gave him a well-founded claim. David, now about 47 years of age, is a widower, and has two promising sons, one of whom bids fair to inherit all his father's reputation as an artist.*

PIERRE MANUEL,

The son of a potter at Montargis, received an excellent school-education, and, at an early period, ventured to Paris, with little or no resources besides his talents. Happening, however, to bring with him

* “ J’ai cherché la connoissance de *David*, le plus grand peintre d’histoire vivant, & non pas de politique, excentrique, fanatique, & partisan de *Robespierre*. Je l’ai trouvé, je l’ai vu souvent travailler & j’allais avec un plaisir infini, dans son bel atelier du Louvre, sans m’embarrasser de ce que disoient des mignons Aristocrates sans gout pour les arts, &c.

“ Sublimité dans l’imagination, grandeur dans l’invention, noble simplicité dans la composition, vérité dans l’expression, justesse dans le dessein, beauté des formes, chaleur de coloris, harmonie des couleurs; quand toutes ces propriétés se réunissent dans les ouvrages d’un peintre, on peut dire que c’est un grand peintre, & elles sont réunies dans les tableaux achevés de David.

“ C’est à *David* à ses élèves que l’école Française à l’obligation de s’être relevée de sa décadence, du retour à l’étude de l’antique, et de la réunion du beau idéal avec l’imitation de la belle nature.” — *Fragments sur Paris*, vol. ii. p. 203.

letters of recommendation to M. de Buffon, and several other eminent men, he soon obtained employment in the lower walks of literature, and, while still a youth, acquired some reputation by an *Historical and Philosophical Essay on the Life of St. Louis*, which was no bad imitation of the style employed by Voltaire in his *Age of Louis the Fourteenth*.

He soon found, however, that the field of literature was overstocked with labourers, and, to improve his scanty means of subsistence, was happy to procure a small place in the police; so small, indeed, that, to make up the measure of his wants, he was forced to counteract some of its regulations.

While the old government existed, Paris abounded with complaisant personages, who served as *go-betweens* to the public and the publishers of works, unsanctioned by the licence of a Royal Censor. Being known to the booksellers, they were able to purchase obnoxious pamphlets without difficulty; and these they handed about among their wealthier acquaintance, with such well-calculated assiduity, that the customary remuneration of dinners and suppers almost struck the whole article of board out of the catalogue of their expences. Manuel continued to act as one of this parasitical fraternity, until M. Tournon, an eminent banker, employed him as tutor to his son. He was retained in that situation for several years; and when his services were no longer wanted, he was dismissed, with a pension of a thousand livres *per annum*.

As soon as he was in possession of a fixed income,
instead

instead of circulating prohibited books, Manuel set about the fabrication of them himself. He was one of the authors of the *Correspondence Secrete*, an annual publication, printed out of France; and had also some concern in a pamphlet entitled, *A Letter from an Officer in the French Guards*. As the letter reflected with great freedom on the first personages in the kingdom, a *lettre de cachet* was issued against him, and Manuel obtained *the honours of the Bastille*. So, at least, he always said himself; but there were persons who asserted that he was confined in the *Bicêtre*, a prison of a far more ignominious kind.

A seclusion of several months taught him to give his pen a more prudent direction, as appeared by *L'Année Française*, the next work of any note that he published. It contained, under every day of the year, a concise life of some illustrious Frenchman, and was intended as a course of national biography, for the use of schools. This production, remarkable for an affectation of point, was rudely handled by the critics. "It might be brilliant," they said, "but it was entirely destitute of solidity." Such, indeed, was exactly the character of the author's mind. He was neither remarkable for soundness of judgment, extent of information, nor depth of erudition; but he possessed a great fund of wit, of which the acrimonious sallies were more honourable to his head than to his heart.

He had lived a long time in habits of great intimacy with a female, who made many sacrifices on his account; whose wit, of a more amiable kind,
was

was almost equal to this own; and whose person, upon the whole, was pleasing, though she was very thin, and even a little deformed. In the heat of dispute, this lady expressed her astonishment at the unworthy treatment she suffered from a man who loved her. "Love *you*!" replied Manuel, "love *you*! Do you think, then, that I wish to go through a course of osteology?"

Sarcasms equally bitter, were frequently levelled by him against the government; and, it is probable, that his tongue, more uncontrollable than even his pen, would have procured him a second visit to the Bastille, if, in good time, the Bastille and the government had not been destroyed together.

The Revolution, however, at its outset, was very near drawing down upon Manuel a much greater mischief than that to which he had been before exposed. Being mistaken for a person particularly odious to the populace, he was dragged to a *lantern*; the rope was actually put round his neck, in spite of all remonstrance; and he already felt its pressure, when he was rescued by the interference of general Lafayette; the mark of the cord was visible for a considerable length of time afterwards.

The persecution Manuel experienced from the old government had raised his reputation as a writer, and his well-known political sentiments gave him some title to a share in the new order of things. He was accordingly appointed Administrator of the Police, an office which the employment he had formerly held qualified him to fill, and which gave him access to
the

the papers of that department. From these he made copious extracts, and published them under the title of *La Police de Paris dévoilée*. Among many interesting particulars, were a number of scandalous anecdotes of priests, tending to demonstrate, that the manners of the clergy were polluted by the most degraded obscenity and lasciviousness ; these were given in the very text of the original documents, that they might appear before the public in a more unquestionable shape.

Immediately on this, the whole herd of bigots set up as loud an outcry of scandal, as if the secret practices of the priesthood had made a part of the mysteries of holy mother church.

From the same source Manuel also obtained a collection of letters, written in different state prisons, by the celebrated Mirabeau ;* and these he published
as

* “ P. MANUEL à ses Concitoyens.

“ Le peuple que j'ai déjà servi, daigne encore s'occuper de moi : il faut bien que je parle de moi au peuple.

“ Ses suffrages me dispensent de l'assurer que je ne ferais jamais un pas pour obtenir une place : on ne doit tout faire que pour en mériter.

“ Une difficulté s'élève contre moi avant même que je sois élu procureur de la commune.

“ Je dois aux sections quelques faits : elles connoîtront jusqu'à mes intentions : car il ne faut rien cacher à la loi.

“ Il est très-vrai qu'après avoir rempli avec une religieuse assiduité mes fonctions d'administrateur à la police, jaloux de préparer, dans le silence d'une petite ville, quelques ouvrages utiles à la revolution, j'aillai me fixer, avec mes livres, à Montargis le

as soon as that political meteor sunk, after a short blaze, beneath the surface of the earth. This speculation proved exceedingly lucrative.

Upon the re-election of Municipal officers, he lost his place, and being also disappointed in his hope of a seat in the Legislative Assembly, he retired to Montargis. One of the Parisian electors being asked, why a man of so much merit and patriotism had been neglected, answered, "*that he possessed too much wit.*"

After a considerable stay in his native country, he returned to Paris, to throw his net again into the troubled waters of the Revolution, and was fortunate enough to catch the place of *Procureur de la Commune*, although Rocquillon, a Justice of Peace, endeavoured to prove him destitute of the requisite

20 Octobre 1790, heureux de cette médiocrité d'or qui conserve l'indépendance. Attendant mes droits avec le respect & l'empressement d'un patriote, je n'y ai fait aucun acte de citoyen actif : car je l'étois encore à Paris, lorsque se formèrent les assemblées primaires, puisque ma section de l'Observatoire m'a nommé électeur : & si je ne fut pas mandé, c'est que j'avois un concurrent, à voix égales, moins jeune que moi. Mais, la main sur ma conscience & sur la constitution, qui seront toujours mes guides, je confesse que, si, depuis six semaines, je me trouve dans le pays natal de la liberté, ce n'est que pour publier un ouvrage nécessaire à la mémoire de celui qui l'a fondée en France, de Mirabeau ; & que si ma patrie, où j'ai deux grands ennemis, l'ignorance & la superstition, m'avoit fait l'honneur de me nommer le dernier de ses notables, à la Saint-Martin, il eût été dans mes principes d'aller à ce poste : car c'est toujours celui qui rapportera le moins que je défendrai le mieux. L'argent ne vaudra jamais l'estime, puisqu'elle est la liste civile du peuple."

eligibi-

eligibility.* A night or two before the September massacres, the latter was committed to prison, it was said, by Manuel's means, and, it was suspected, with a view of vengeance. If this be true, the action stamps indelible disgrace upon his name, since to his personal enmity he could consent to sacrifice a venerable magistrate, who had given the most unequivocal proofs of patriotism, and who supported the dignity of his situation, by a noble demeanour, to the last moment of his life. When, amidst the indiscriminate butchery that ensued, he was dragged out of an obscure prison in the *Fauxbourg St. Marceau*, he calmly remonstrated with the mob, and showed them the injustice of their proceedings. His speech was answered by a multitude of wounds, which the old man, who was of uncommon stature, received in an erect posture, standing like a tower in the midst of his executioners, without shrinking from their weapons, and repeating in mild accents, "*Mes enfans, l'on vous égare ! Mes enfans, l'on vous égare !*"† till a

* " MUNICIPALITE.

" Un arrêté de la municipalité convoque la commune dans ses 48 sections, pour délibérer, conformément à la loi du 20 Mai 1791, & en exécution d'un arrêté du directoire du département sur la question de savoir si le citoyen désigné dans les scrutins sous le nom de Pierre Manuel; est un des citoyens éligibles de la commune de Paris. La section du Théâtre-Français, sans doute par respect pour la loi, lui refuse à Paris un droit qu'elle croit qu'il a exercé à Montargis, où il est depuis un an."

† " My children, you are misled ! My children, you are misled ! "

blow, more fatal than the rest, brought him breathless to the ground.

A few days after these disgraceful scenes, Manuel was chosen a member of the Convention, where he joined the Moderates, and often made the adverse party feel the keen edge of his wit. One day, when he was supporting a motion with his usual brilliancy of observation, Legendre called down from the top of the Mountain, "*Allons, il faut décréter que Manuel a de l'esprit.*" "*Il vaudroit mieux,*" rejoined Manuel, "*décréter que je suis une bête. Legendre aurait alors le droit de m'assommer.**" Legendre was a butcher, and at that time was thought to be attached to the murderous principles of Marat's school.

Manuel continued to oppose the violent decrees which too often passed in the Convention, till some particular point, preparatory to the death of Louis XVI. was put to the vote. Finding it determined against the devoted monarch, he suddenly rose, and exclaimed aloud, "I must go out of this hall, in order to breathe a purer air." He retired accordingly, and, on the following day, resigned his seat.†

Unable

* Almost all the merit of this excellent repartee evaporates in a translation: "It ought to be voted," said Legendre, "that Manuel is a man of wit."—"It would be better to decree," rejoined Manuel, "that I am a *beast*, as Legendre will then be entitled to knock me down."

† Pagés, a French writer on the events of the Revolution, asserts that Manuel received fifty thousand crowns for the ransom of Madame de Lamballe. He observes also, that the unhappy Louis was flattered both by him and Kersaint, that his

Unable any longer to assist the unfortunate Louis within the walls of the Convention, he undertook to serve his cause with the nation at large, to whose feelings he made a powerful appeal, in a letter which appeared in the *Journal de Paris*, and was indeed considered as the most masterly of all his productions. In consequence of these efforts to save the King, he was accused of having suffered the unfortunate Marie Antoinette to pervert his principles—a charge, to which his well-known devotion to the fair-sex, the opportunities of seeing the Queen, given by his station in the Municipality, and the personal seduction she was supposed to employ, afforded some colour of truth. But it is more probable that, like many other men of stronger passions than judgment, he was unable to separate the abuse and violation of liberty from liberty itself, or to distinguish the accidental and momentary misfortunes that attended its progress, from its essential and permanent advantages.

Be this as it may, it is certain that his political opinions had undergone a remarkable change; for the ardent friend of a popular government was now become a decided Royalist.*

life should be safe, if he would write to the King of Prussia to retire from the French territory. Petion was conceived to have made the same promise, because the King exclaimed,—“Surely Manuel, Petion, and Kerfaint, did not vote for my death!”

* At the time here referred to, the lady who is the subject of a preceding anecdote, told her friends, that Manuel was become *le plus grand Aristocrat possible*.

When, under the sinister auspices of Robespierre, the sun of philosophy and freedom was setting fast, and the triumphant *Mountain* threw its dark shadow over the whole Republic, Manuel once more retired to Montargis ; but the daggers which he had spoken still rankled in the hearts of the tyrant and his assassins. He was accordingly dragged forth ; brought before the Revolutionary Tribunal ; condemned, of course ; and guillotined, on the 17th of November, 1793, in company with generals Houchard and Brunet.

The *amateurs* of executions observed, that he endeavoured to hasten the fatal stroke ; and thence inferred a want of courage, in the same manner as they did from the reluctance with which it was encountered by Madame du Barré, and several other victims. It is difficult, however, to understand how a similar conclusion can be drawn from premises so opposite. It will, perhaps, appear to others, that there is, at least, as much real courage in advancing the moment of a painful ceremony, as in that forced composure which disguises the dread of destruction, natural to every thing that lives and breathes.

LEGENBRE.

The *Mountain* (as it was metaphorically called) of the late National Convention of France, proved, in reality, a *Tarpeian Rock* to many who ascended it. Legendre was a Mountaineer, and placed himself near the very *apex*. He is, notwithstanding, one among the few who have escaped the civil war which broke out among the patriots themselves.

Legendre

Legendre was formerly a butcher, in St. Martin's-street, Paris. His elevation to the rank of a Representative of the French people, is one of the striking phenomena in the history of the Revolution; not only with respect to the singularity of the circumstance, but to the uncommon share of abilities, and the appearance of liberal education, which he has, on all occasions, exhibited.

His first appearance on the revolutionary stage was on July 11, 1789, the day on which Neckar took his departure from Paris. The dismissal of that popular Minister filled all France with consternation; the shops and theatres in Paris were shut up, and the people paraded the streets with the busts of Neckar and Orleans covered with black crape.

Legendre was one of the leaders of these patriotic processions, and distinguished himself a few days afterwards by an harangue which he made to the people, urging them to oppose the Prince *de Lambesc*, (who had been dispatched with his regiment of cavalry to suppress the insurrection) to break into the Hospital of the Invalids, in order to procure themselves arms, and to unite in one great effort for the demolition of the Bastille. In every commotion, or important movement of the people, which afterwards took place in Paris, Legendre appeared as the chief actor. He took great pains to recommend it to the citizens to proceed in a body to Versailles on the famous 6th of October, 1789; he urged them to prevent the departure of the King's aunts for Rome; to stop his Majesty, on his proposed journey to St.

Cloud, in the Easter of 1791; and it was he also who planned the celebration of the National Fête in the Thuilleries, after the King's return from Varennes. Another conspicuous act on the part of Legendre, during this period, was his obtaining for the execrable Marat, an asylum against the persecutions he suffered, for having been one of the leaders of the multitude, who, on July the 27th, 1791, resorted to the *Champ de Mars*, to draw up a petition to the National Assembly for the abolition of Royalty. On this occasion he prepared for the terrified culprit a subterraneous abode, in which he was afterwards enabled to secrete himself from prosecutions on account of his incendiary publications.

The merits of Legendre had been too conspicuous to be overlooked at the time when the Primary Assemblies were convened in Paris, for the purpose of electing deputies to the National Convention. He was, therefore, unanimously elected by that department; and as votes were not then bought and sold, he had three times as many as the rich Duke of Orleans!

It was stated in a pamphlet, published in Paris about three years ago, that Legendre being one night in the chair of the Jacobin Club, was so far transported with the furor of enthusiasm as to exclaim, "*Moi, je mangerais le cœur d'un Aristocrate.*"—"I would devour the heart of an Aristocrat." A phrase which, according to the author of the pamphlet, was truly worthy of a butcher.

The Count de Montgaillard, in his work, entitled

"*The*

“*The Year 1795,*” says, that much about the period above alluded to, Legendre was heard to declare, “*In the whole Roman history I have found only one principle capable of being applied to the French Revolution; and that is the well-known wish of Caligula. Most probably the Emperor referred to that part of the Roman people which was possessed of property. If he did, we shall dare to practise what he scarcely dared to wish. Two decrees more, and all the possessors of property in France shall have but a single head, which we will cut off at one stroke.*” These two assertions, we should hope, for the honour of human nature, are destitute of authenticity. They appear indeed to be improbable, inasmuch as they are inconsistent with the received character of Legendre, and with other more liberal sentiments expressed by him on subsequent occasions.

This deputy had, by some means, incurred the displeasure of Robespierre. His wife died two months before the execution of the latter, from the mere effect of terror, as the name of her husband was known to be set down in the tyrant’s *black book*. Legendre, Tallien, Lecointre, and three other legislators, had not slept in their own houses for several weeks previously to that event, apprehending a visit from the satellites of the usurper; and whenever they withdrew from the Convention, they found it necessary to take various precautions to frustrate the vigilance of the spies appointed to watch them.

He heartily united with the party of the *Thermidorians*, so that, during the whole period of the reaction of that party, he was a busy member of the

Convention. He made a great number of speeches, all of which were persuasive, and full of that easy and natural eloquence which can never be acquired by study. There was not a single sitting of the Convention, during the winter of 1794, and the spring of 1795, in which Legendre did not exhibit some proof of his political and oratorical talents.

Alluding one day to the style of Barrere, who had presented a memorial to the Convention, "*I easily recognize,*" said he, "*in that language, the patois of crimes.*" Speaking, on another occasion, of the policy of the young King of Sweden, who had sent his ambassador, the *Baron de Stael*, once more to Paris, and whose lady had held, while they were on their journey, long conferences with the Prince of Condé, and other emigrants, in Switzerland: "*The Baron de Stael would be much more welcome in Paris,*" said he, "*if he did not bring with him the enchantress, Circe, who intends to transform us all into hogs.*" And when the arch-Jacobin, Duhem, in the sitting of the 12th Germinal, exclaimed, "*that the French representation was vilified by that vile demagogue, the butcher of Paris!*" Legendre replied, "*It appears, then, that I have stained my hands with the blood of irrational animals; I have, however, at no time, sacrificed human victims to the execrable idol of the Jacobins.*"

A thick and portentous cloud boded ruin to the reputation and fortune of Legendre, in the autumn of 1795. He was accused, by the public voice, of having sold many of his votes and speeches, in compliance with the intreaties of Mademoiselle Contat, the celebrated

celebrated actresses, in the theatre *La Rue Feydeau*, of whom he was enamoured ; of having acquired an immense fortune amidst the vicissitudes of the Revolution ; of having, once more, espoused the Jacobin interest, by his motion for the deliverance of the imprisoned Terrorists ! and, lastly, of having formerly taken an active part in the ferocious massacres of the 2d and 3d of September, 1792.

He replied, however, to all these charges with much firmness, and proved that his reputed attachment to Mademoiselle Contat was a fabrication of the disaffected ; that his fortune, as he could shew from public and authentic documents, had been diminished 10,000 French pounds by the events of the Revolution ; that the deliverance of many of the persons imprisoned was an act which justice called for, several good patriots having been branded with the name of Terrorists in a moment of general fermentation ; and that, during the bloody days of September, he was occupied with his own private concerns in the northern parts of Picardy.

He also addressed a letter to the Journalist, *Real*, in which he points out as the author of all these calumnies, a Spanish adventurer, of the name of *Marchenna*, who, having been exiled from his native country, had taken refuge in France. This *Marchenna* was soon afterwards banished by the Committee of Public Safety, and accompanied by a guard of the gendarmerie, till he reached the frontiers of Switzerland.

Legendre remained, by lot, in the new legislature,

and, being qualified by age, took his seat in the Council of Elders,* and died soon afterwards. In this assembly he did not figure as a conspicuous member, because the new order of things afforded little occasion for any display of popular energy. When he rose up one day to speak in his wonted manner, he was heard without emotion, and Lanjuinais took occasion to remind him of the different character of the auditors. Since, therefore, it has been lately the fashion in France to pay respect to whatever *sparkles*, whether solid or not, this Democrat was seldom heard to make what may be called a *speech*.

On all great questions he voted on the side of popular freedom, from a belief that the people can never be too free; that their happiness depends upon that freedom; and that where it is abridged, or attempted to be abridged, seditions and rebellions are excited. Whatever knowledge of mankind Legendre possessed, has certainly not been obtained from books. He indeed had no opportunities to read them; he was the pupil of Nature alone, and evinced this pleasing truth, in favour of such as may not have had what is called a *learned education*, that “to know a little well, may answer all the purposes of our nature and our wants.” Legendre assumed and displayed great firmness and constancy; but he never affected to *shine*. He exhibited a *very striking example* how much, and how soon it is possible to acquire the reputation of a good speaker,

* Dec. 13, 1797.

by indulging those sentiments alone, which *truth* and the *amor patriæ* inspire.

In the late struggle for preponderance between the Executive and Legislative Powers, Legendre may be said to have been anxiously watching the beam, rather than passionately throwing his weight into either scale. His private opinion, however, is said to have been more favourable to the Constitution of 1793, than to that of 1795, thinking with Paine, and many others, that to require a qualification to vote for a representative, is but another word for legal usurpation.

Legendre was about fifty years of age, above the middle size, with strong muscular limbs; he had a piercing eye, was marked with the small-pox, and had a fair and florid complexion. In his manners he was obliging, polite, and pleasant.

DUBOIS CRANCE,

Was born within the pale of Aristocracy, but, luckily for him, his family was deprived of its titles of nobility in the year 1762, it appearing that it had usurped the privileges of that class. Having been for three years administrator of his native province, he was elected, in 1789, a deputy to the *Third-Estate*, in the first National Assembly.

He soon exhibited, in his capacity of legislator, the natural energy of his character. Toward the conclusion of a speech which he made in the hall of the *Tiers Etat*, relative to the dispute with the two privileged orders, he made use of the following expressions:

sions: "Do you not see," exclaims he, "that, under the appearance of reconciliation, each preserves its distinctive characters in the two refractory orders—that of the nobility, wishes to rule—that of the clergy, continues to be hypocrites, while the court, as usual, endeavours to corrupt. Let us immediately organize ourselves. Every delay is a crime against the nation."

Being afterwards appointed to the War Committee, he published a work upon the re-organization of the army, in which he expressed a wish, that the officers might be chosen from among the privates, and strongly enforced his objections against the old mode of recruiting. The army is indebted to his exertions for its increase of pay, as are also the invalids, for the additional comforts they now enjoy.

Dubois Crancé was one of the original supporters of the famous *Breton Club*, since better known under the name of the *Jacobins*, and first projected by Lanjuinais. He was, at that time, not only in the assembly, but in the club, one of the warmest supporters of the constitution of 1790. In the latter part; however, of the sitting of the first assembly, he was prevented from acting by a severe illness, brought on by the loss of a beautiful wife, and some other severe domestic calamities.

In the National Convention he became a Mountaineer, and a warm friend of Robespierre, whom he considered as the Cato of France. He is also said to have disgraced himself by abetting the cruelties practised by Collot d'Herbois, at Lyons. Nor was his
posterior

posterior conduct, in that place, approved of, when he was on mission, in conjunction with Albite *. In 1795, when the assignats were in very low credit, he proposed to the National Convention a new emission of them, with the inscription, *assignats or death*.

Dubois Crancé was lately sent, by the Directory, to the army of Italy, to exhort the soldiers to remain faithful to the Republic, and to oppose the spreading disposition in favour of Royalty. It is thought, in Paris, that the threatening addresses of that army were of his composition.

CAMILLE DESMOULINS,

A sprightly and handsome young man, became what an Italian would call the *Rinaldo* of the Revolution. It was he, indeed, who, on the 14th of July;

* He was denounced in the Convention by Couthon, while the latter was in the very zenith of his influence, and was expected to have been sent to the guillotine. Robespierre, his old friend, was silent on the occasion, and its apprehended effects therefore vanished. One unfavourable word from him would have doomed him to perdition.

This denunciation against Dubois Crancé, was founded upon his supposed inactivity during the siege of Lyons, and he was recalled at the instance of Couthon, although the place surrendered six days after: thus General Dohbet reaped the glory which his predecessor was entitled to.

A Frenchman, lately an emigrant here, asserts, that when Dubois was sent as commissioner to Rennes, he ordered the battalion of children to shoot the *Chouans*, in order to accustom themselves to "republican firmness!"

This conduct is too atrocious to be believed, on the mere assertion of the person who made it.

1789, by leaping upon a table, in the Palais Royal, with two pistols in his hand, and by hoisting the national cockade, first gave the people the signal of liberty, and decided the capture of the Bastille.

In the National Convention, Camille was as popular, and as much beloved, as Barnave had been in the Constituent Assembly. He was descended from an ancient family, celebrated all over Europe for the number of learned men it has produced, and especially for the illustrious Civilian Charles Desmoulins, who flourished about the close of the 16th century, and who, from his learned and voluminous works, treating of royal jurisdiction and the canon laws, was called *the scourge of the court of Rome*.

Desmoulins was scarcely 27 years of age at the time of the convocation of the States-General; and it was generally understood in Paris, that, had not the Revolution taken place, he would have been appointed one of the King's advocates in the Parliament of Paris, a dignity which had been conferred successively upon many of his ancestors. But the Revolution opened so vast a field of exertion, and afforded him the prospect of so great a degree of glory, a degree which it would have been difficult for him to acquire under the ancient regimen, whatever might be his station, rank, or pretensions, that he renounced his early prospects, and gave himself wholly up to the revolutionary mania.

No sooner had the States-General converted themselves into a National Assembly, than a general enthusiasm, in favour of liberty, electrified all ranks of
men

men in France, particularly young persons of a liberal education. Camille availed himself of this opportunity to direct the public mind, and became the prime mover of the Parisian youth in the groupés of the Palais Royal. He first recommended to them to form political societies, in which some important topic should be formally discussed as the order of the day; and although these juvenile assemblies have been often treated with ridicule, it is certain, that, in Paris, they were of wonderful use, in kindling and maintaining public spirit among the people.

These clubs were always directed by Camille, who frequently officiated in the capacity of president. They consisted, sometimes, of moveable groupés, assembled in the open air, sometimes in the gallery and areas of the *Palais Royal*. Each of them had a president, and a secretary, who made what the Aristocrats called irregular motions, and dispatched messengers to Versailles, in order to obtain accurate information of every thing transacted either at Court, or in the National Assembly. It may not be unworthy of notice, that these bands of young politicians were, for the most part, dressed in green coats, with red collars, a *costume* considered by vulgar interpreters as an emblem of *Hope*.

Camille always appeared in this dress himself, and required all the friends of the popular party to wear dresses of a similar description. It was at length, however, consented to by degrees, that the common emblem should be a cockade of white, green, and red, and this was the origin of the famous national tri-coloured

tri-coloured cockade, the invention of which is consequently to be ascribed to Camille Desmoulins.

The assemblage of these political circles, in the *Palais Royal*, the residence of the Duke of Orleans, and the union of the white, red, and green colours in the cockade, which were the colours in the livery of that Prince, gave rise to insinuations, that the various movements were directed by his secret influence, and that Camille was no more than an agent. It was also reported that he held nocturnal conferences with the Prince, and with the leaders of the Orleans faction, at *Mousseau*, the country seat of the Duke. Founded on these reports, several severe strictures were published on his conduct, the best of which were *La Jacobiniade*, a small poem in the manner of Pope's *Dunciade*, and a comedy, entitled *La Blanchisseuse de Mousseau* (The Washer-woman of Mousseau), *ou Les Amours de M. Coco*.

The zeal of Camille for the Revolution was certainly so extravagant, that he exposed his integrity to suspicions among enlightened and moderate persons. Exclusive of his being the leader of the Parisian youth in the *Palais Royal*, and his assiduities in the club of the Jacobins, he undertook, when the National Assembly had removed to Paris, the management of a patriotic journal. His indiscreet zeal, however, carried him so far (in the 35th number) that a denunciation was preferred against him in the National Assembly, which was referred to the *Chatelet*, where he experienced much difficulty to obtain his acquittal.

While

While under accusation, he presented a petition to the National Assembly, in the sitting of the 2d of September, 1790, remonstrating that, prior to his denunciation being referred to the *Chatelet*, it ought to have been examined by the committee *des recherches*, and that he had no mercy to expect from a courtly tribunal, which was notoriously prepossessed against him. When his application was about to be heard, he placed himself in the upper part of the tribune, with a view to observe the transactions passing in the *hall*. After the secretary had read it, *Malouet*, one of the most conspicuous members of the Assembly, opposed it, and moved, that the defendant should plead his innocence before the judge of the *Chatelet*: as, however, he must be fully convinced of his own guilt, he would not dare——“*Yes, I dare!*” abruptly exclaimed Camille, from the tribune. This conduct was instantly interpreted as an act of indecent temerity, and a breach of the respect due to the Legislative Body. All the deputies started up at once, with symptoms of indignation, and the president gave orders for the immediate arrest of the person who had made the exclamation. But while the commissioners of the hall were proceeding to execute the order, he prudently contrived to make his escape.

It is easy to conceive that so determined a republican as Camille, would not be idle during the remainder of the session of the Constituent Assembly, and the period of the new legislature, from 1791 to 1792. On the famous 28th of July, 1791, after the King had been stopped, in his flight, at Varennes, and
brought

brought back to Paris, he was one of those violent leaders who instigated the people to repair to the *Champ de Mars*, and invited them to petition the Assembly, to declare that the King, by his voluntary secession, had abdicated the crown, and that monarchy should, for the future, cease to exist in France.

This meeting, it is well known, was declared seditious, and orders were issued for arresting those who had excited it. Lafayette, accordingly, at the head of the national guards, marched to the field, to disperse the people, but the chiefs had disappeared, and Camille, with Danton, and others, took refuge, as was then believed, at Marseilles.

When the National Assembly was projected, a person of the activity and popularity of Camille could not fail to be nominated a deputy to it. From the meeting of that body, may be dated the beginning of his most useful exertions, and of his most splendid career. Being the intimate friend of both Robespierre and Danton, he was, of course, a strenuous *mountaineer*. He concurred with them in the abominable design of destroying the Gironde deputies, and in the establishment of what was, at that time, called the *sansculotterie*. Notwithstanding this connection, he always acted independently of his powerful colleagues, and never was silent on any opportunity in which he could be useful; nor was he mean enough, at any time, to flatter their vices and errors. A brilliant example of his independence of mind was the defence he published, in 1793, of the unfortunate General Dillon, who had been denounced

as keeping up a correspondence with the Prince de Cobourg.

The public are indebted to him for *the Secret History of the Brissotines**, a pamphlet which develops certain arcana of the Revolution, during the first six months of the Republic.

The club of the Cordeliers had been nearly coeval with that of the Jacobins, nor was any material difference at first observed between them, either in regard to revolutionary principles, or external proceedings. The former had been established merely to afford better accommodation to the patriots who lived on the left side of the river. Of these were Marat, Danton, and Camille himself, who lived in the street of the *Théâtre Français*.

At length, the fatal difference which took place between Danton and Robespierre, broke it up. This event was justly attributed to the ambition of the latter, whose aim was to destroy, by any means, all those who enjoyed either credit or popularity, and who were, in consequence a controul upon his power. He founded Camille, and found him, as might be expected from his character, unshaken in his attachment to Danton. The tyrant resolved, therefore, to sacrifice both of them; and as the pretext which he made use of to get rid of Danton was a calumny at which common sense revolted, so that which he adopted with regard to Camille was truly

* This was read before the Revolutionary Tribunal, as containing heads of accusation against the unfortunate deputies, but disavowed by Camille.

ridiculous. The old story was again served up of his being an Orleanist: it was asserted, that he had injured the revolutionary system by his late periodical works; and had covered, one night, with black crape, the table of the rights of man, at the club of the Cordeliers, &c. A report on these singular accusations was made to the National Convention by St. Just, one of the members of the Committee of Public Safety.

After the passing of the decree of accusation, Camille was secured in the Luxemburg, where the prisoners were not allowed any open communication with each other. He had scarcely an opportunity to write to his wife, and was frequently heard to exclaim, *Why has Robespierre forsaken me? I never merited such treatment from him!* After a confinement of about two months, he was tried and condemned at one sitting, by the bloody Revolutionary Tribunal, and soon after conveyed to the scaffold, together with Danton, and others of his colleagues.

The last moments of Camille were attended with no particular circumstance, unless we may notice his dying in the belief of the tenets of the Christian religion, to which he had been always attached. Being asked how old he was? he replied, with his wonted wit and pleasantry, *I die in the same age in which our lord, our father, our master, that true republican, that true sansculotte, Jesus Christ, was executed.* By this he meant to say, that he was in his 33d year.

PERIGORD DE TALLEYRAND.

The Abbé Perigord de Talleyrand, *ci-devant* bishop of Autun, in Burgundy, is descended from one of the most illustrious families in France, a house coeval with monarchy, and related, by the female line, with that of Bourbon. A disaffected clergyman, in a pamphlet against religious innovations, endeavoured to injure the bishop, by styling him “*The athiest priest, who disgraces the name of Perigord.*”

As the Bishop of Autun was, by birth and dignity, enabled to exercise much authority over the inferior clergy in the Assembly, so he was endowed with uncommon talents, knowledge, and activity, to support his situation. He also possessed frequent opportunities of evincing his superior learning.

His celebrated Reports made in the name of the Constitutional Committee, on the subject of Public Instruction, on the 10th, 11th, and 12th of September, 1791, were afterwards printed, by a decree of the Assembly.

M. Perigord, or as he is now called, M. Talleyrand, in his capacity of a revolutionary patriarch, was appointed by the municipality of Paris to officiate pontifically in the splendid ceremony of the National Confederation, on the 14th of July, 1790, in the *Champ de Mars*. He appeared at the head of more than two hundred priests, dressed in white linen, and adorned with tri-coloured ribands. When about to officiate, a storm of wind took place, followed by a deluge

deluge of rain ; he proceeded, however, in the celebration of the mass, without any regard to that event, and afterwards pronounced a benediction on the royal standard of France, and on the eighty-three banners of the departments which waved around it, before the altar.

In the civil constitution of the clergy, it was decreed, that, according to the ancient discipline of the church, the consecration of bishops, in France, should for the future be performed by the metropolitans, and other bishops. This regulation was a fatal blow to the court of Rome, and it required the firmness of mind peculiar to Talleyrand to carry it into execution. He was the only episcopal dignitary who offered to consecrate the new constitutional bishop of Versailles. This brought forth the famous monitory from the Pope, of the 13th of April, 1791, who complained loudly against the Bishop of Autun, as an impious wretch, who had “ imposed his sacrilegious hands on the *intruding* candidate.”

A man like M. Talleyrand, who had relinquished all the prejudices of his rank and order, could not fail to create many enemies. Lampoons, pamphlets, &c. flocked against him from every quarter. The chapter, and the secular and regular clergy of Autun, exhorted their chief to return to the faith of his forefathers : the canons of another diocese wrote a periodical work, entitled, *La Secte des Talleyrandistes* ; and a clergyman, who was also a good poet, terminated one of his odes with these two lines :

“ Un

“ Un Grégoire à tête idiôte,

“ Et un Autun Anticrétien.”

These attacks might have been the result of the hatred conceived by the highest ranks of society against the bishop, on account of his patriotism.—The truth, however, is, that he incurred some censures from the patriots also. He was charged with being a friend to the Revolution, only because he had led an irregular life previously to it, and had a great many debts to discharge ; and it was insinuated, that he received immense sums from the Court, to exert his authority over his colleagues to obtain for the King the *absolute veto*.

Soon after the conclusion of the Constituent Assembly, M. de Talleyrand was sent to England, in the capacity of a secret negociator, either to avert the war, or conclude an alliance between Great Britain and France. He was compelled, however, in a short time, to leave this country, in consequence of the alien bill. The increasing system of terror, in France, and a report that some documents had been found in the Thuilleries, after the 10th of August, relative to the bribes paid by the Court, on account of the *veto*, prevented him from returning thither, and he set sail for America.

In 1795, as soon as the Convention had passed a law for recalling those emigrants who had fled from it after the 2d and 3d of September, he transmitted a petition to the Committee of Public Safety, requesting permission to return, and early in the next year he arrived in France.

He was appointed first a member, and, soon afterwards, one of the secretaries to the National Institute in Paris*. In one of the public sittings of the last winter, he presented a memoir, proving the necessity of a new commercial treaty with the American States: the Paris papers stated, that this dissertation was the result of his inquiries on the spot, during two years' residence, and that it contained a great many new observations relating to the future prosperity of the Republic.

On the dismissal of C. la Croix, in June last, Talleyrand was appointed Minister for Foreign Affairs; and, if we are to give credit to a French periodical writer, a very laughable scene took place, in the hall of the Directory, soon after his nomination to the ministry. "*The Bishop of Autun (says the journalist) with his blue national uniform, and sabre, presented to his masters, one morning, the envoy of the Pope, and the ambassador of the Grand Signor.*"

The conduct of the *Ex-Abbé*, in a recent negotiation with the American Ministers, has exposed him to great censure, more especially as † X. Y. Z. appear to have been known to him, and, if we are to give credit to the hitherto unimpeached honour of one of the Plenipotentiaries, acted under his immediate direction.

* He soon after presented a work to it, entitled, "*Des Travaux de la Classe des Sciences, Morales, & Politiques.*"

† Certain male and female intriguers, so denominated, in the printed correspondence, who insisted on a sum of money as the *sine qua non* of the treaty.

It appears, indeed, from a letter, published most probably at his own request, that the subject of a *loan* was started by the minister himself; and surely the idea of a FREE STATE purchasing *forgiveness* by means of Batavian inscriptions, is a very equivocal specimen of political morality!

FOUQUIER TINVILLE.

Without such an instrument as this in the character of *accusateur public* (attorney-general), the designs of the tyrant Robespierre must always have remained incomplete. Appius Claudius himself was desirous of preserving due form in the proceedings of the courts of justice: but our own country furnishes us with an instance, in the administration of a *Jesseries*, how much evidences and juries may be fashioned to the purposes of revenge and tyranny.

This real *ame damnée* of the chief of the Decemviri, attended upon his master every evening, to receive instructions for disposing of the accused the next day, on their trial. Sixty, and even eighty poor miserable devoted creatures, were often huddled together in one *acte d'accusation* (indictment), although it was, perhaps, the first time they had ever seen each other face to face; and sometimes the witnesses, whether for or against them, would be interrupted in the midst of their depositions by this sanguinary tool, with the remark: "I dare say, citizens jurors, your minds are made up respecting the guilt of the accused." To which, being under his absolute direction, they would reply in the affirmative: on

this sentence was passed upon them, and in a few hours afterwards carried into execution.

On the first of August, after dethroning the chiefs, and Dumas, the judge, of the tribunal, Fouquier was ordered by the Convention to be taken into custody*. He made an able defence, the chief plea of which was, that he could not decline the office, and that he acted in obedience to commands which were not to be disputed, being the highest authority in the Republic. But being now tried by judges of different dispositions to those who had before presided in that court, they told him, that the commands he had received, by his own account, were inhuman, that his compliance with them was criminal, and that his life was but a miserable atonement for the many thousands he had sported with, under a false appearance of justice. His condemnation was an awful lesson to those who may hope to screen themselves from the penalty of cruelty, under the plea of implicit obedience.

The countenance of Fouquier Tinville was as dark as his mind. He was rather tall, of an atrabilious complexion, and about forty-eight years of age. He was a native of Heronelle, and had been an under clerk in the office of the Lieutenant of the Police, till the year 1788.

* Fouquier Tinville was arrested August 1, 1794, and remained in prison until the 7th of May, 1795, when he was condemned, and executed next day.

GARAT.

If the seeds of the French Revolution existed in the abuses of the government, it is certain, that the men of letters gave them both vegetation and growth; of these labourers, the object of our present notice is acknowledged to have been one of the most eminent.

His literary talents and attainments pointed him out as a proper deputy for the *tiers état* in the first National Assembly.

He was not a Girondist, or, in other words, of that party, at the head of which stood Brissot; although he confesses it was to his influence, united with that of Condorcet and Rabaut de St. Etienne, that he owed his appointment as a minister of justice on the 9th of October, 1792. He was also, in his capacity as a man of learning, chosen a commissary of public instruction, a post as honourable and useful as any in the Republic.

Being possessed of much modesty, he spoke but rarely in the legislature, though he wrote a great deal in one of the diurnal prints* of that period. He never was president, secretary, or member of any committee; and this alone constitutes a *brevet* of exemption from the imputation of his being an ambitious man.

He accompanied the French plenipotentiary to England, in April, 1792, and assisted the embassy by his pen; though, being an *ex-constituent*, he could not

* The Journal de Paris.

sustain any public character. He also replied to the proclamation which was, at that time, issued by the governors of Belgium, in which the principles of the French Revolution had been egregiously misrepresented. He had before written a treatise, entitled, "The Art of constructing Society," upon "the Representative System," as the best form of a republican government among a great people. Being without fortune, and (as he says) "obliged to live on the world," he compiled the article in one of the Gazettes, under the head Convention, and there it was he manifested that independence of mind which has secured to him so much esteem, after the passions of his countrymen have, in a great measure, subsided.

His reputation for the love of probity, occasioned him to be recently nominated one of the candidates to the vacancy in the Directory, in the room of Carnot. Though he was not elevated to that high post, another important situation was soon assigned to him.

This was the embassy to Naples, whither he repaired; and on his being presented to the court, addressed the King and Queen, in a speech, the like of which was perhaps never uttered before *crowned heads*, in modern times.

This, of course, gave great offence to their Majesties, who however concealed their resentment, as France was at that moment uncommonly powerful in the Mediterranean, and had a large, well disciplined army, on the frontiers. But these were not the only mortifications to which the king and his consort

were

were obliged to submit. The new minister insisted, that the "friends of France" should be liberated from prison; and such was his influence at that moment, that MEDICI, one of the ringleaders in the late seditions, is reported to have been acquitted by the judges appointed to try him. His Majesty is said to have insisted on a revision of the sentence, which however was fully confirmed.

The Court of Naples, incensed at the interference of the French Minister, and affronted at the high and menacing tone of one of his notes, dispatched a messenger to the Directory, to complain of his conduct, but no satisfaction whatever was obtained.

He was however recalled soon after, and was succeeded by Lacombe St. Michel, during whose mission Lord Nelson's victory occurred, on which the Neapolitan cabinet threw off the mask, and commenced a new war with the French nation, the event of which is known to every one.

BARNAVE,

Next to Mirabeau, the most conspicuous member of the first National, or Constituent Assembly, was originally a native of Grenoble, and an advocate in its parliament. While running so brilliant a career, his age did not exceed twenty-seven years. It would be impossible for us, even in the compass of this volume, to do complete justice to the character of this extraordinary young man: his history wholly includes that of the first three years of the Revolution. It will suffice for our purpose, to make a selection of

the most important facts in which he was the chief actor.

On the famous 20th of June, 1789, when the National Assembly met in the tennis-court (*le jeu de paume*) at Versailles, Barnave exhibited, for the first time, his wonderful powers of eloquence, in a speech, the object of which was to prove, that there existed in the King's council an intention to dissolve the States-General, and that the Assembly ought to take an oath never to separate, until the objects of their mission had been completely attained.

On the 24th of the same month, he moved, contrary to the King's express order, that the sittings of the Assembly should be made public; it being singular, he said, that the *nation* should be refused admittance into the *national* assembly. He was the chief author of the law which was enacted in October, 1789, decreeing, that no bankrupt, or insolvent debtor, should become a member of any municipality, or of the provincial and national assemblies. At this period, he, however, disgraced his philosophical character, by an expression, uttered in the heat of debate—*Ce sang étoit il donc si pur?*—*Was, then, that blood so pure?*—on an occasion, when moderate men were denouncing the assassinations committed by the Parisian mob upon the King's life-guards in Versailles, on the memorable night of the 5th of October.

Barnave was perpetually upon the stage during the whole year of 1790. In the sitting of the 12th of March, he was the member who moved for the suppression of the religious orders—*What I propose is*

not for our own benefit (said he, with his usual eloquence), *it is for the benefit of the religious persons themselves; it is not we, but they, who stand in need of that freedom which they have so imprudently alienated. We ought to abolish those restraints, even though we should be losers by our conduct: I am not proposing a financial operation, but a moral and political arrangement.*

The sitting of the 22d of June was wholly occupied by Barnave, in opposition to Mirabeau, on the question of the power to be delegated to the King of making war and peace: his speeches on this occasion are esteemed the best he ever delivered.

He was a steady promoter of the emancipation of the negroes in the colonies; and having carried his point, he wrote some instructions on the best mode of convoking the colonial assemblies. His conduct, however, in this affair, was highly disapproved of by the French politicians, who imagined, that an unbounded liberty to the negroes would be fatal to the West Indies. Some of them, who gave Barnave full credit for the goodness of his intentions, ascribed his conduct simply to his violent patriotism; others thought, however, that he ought to be judicially condemned for his rashness. Of the latter opinion was the author of a pamphlet, entitled, *The Portrait of the French Legislators*, published at Paris in the year 1791.

Barnave, like the greater part of the *constituents*, was attached to a limited monarchy. He was appointed by the National Assembly, jointly with La-tour-Maubourg, and Petion, to meet the royal family,

when returning to Paris, after their flight to Varennes.

The three deputies were seated in the same carriage with the King and Queen ; and it was obvious, that both of them bestowed upon Barnave so marked a degree of preference, as greatly to exasperate the others. This flattering conduct, aided by the winning address of her Majesty, and the affecting point of view in which they appeared, had the effect of converting Barnave to their interest. In the subsequent struggles, therefore, he lent his support to the royal party, with so much energy and success, that he obtained a degree of oblivion for the conduct of the court in that affair*.

Upon the conclusion of the session of the National Assembly, Barnave was appointed, by his countrymen, mayor of Grenoble. He likewise married the only daughter of a *conseiller des aides*, of the same city, with a dowry of 700,000 livres.

He did not, however, long enjoy either dignity or fortune. In the year 1794, when a persecution was begun by the *terrorists*, against all those who were *constituents*, or considered as well-affected to monarchy, Barnave was seized by the revolutionary committee of Grenoble, and transferred to the bloody and unsparing tribunal of Dumas, in Paris. His behaviour, during his mock trial, was resolute and

* This occurrence undoubtedly occasioned the loss of his popularity. His behaviour towards the royal family soon became the jest of the public, and to every enquiry about Barnave the answer was—" *Il est cruellement attendri au sort du famille royale.*"

highly intrepid. On the question of the president, why he became a Royalist? he boldly answered—
“ I was the most zealous advocate of freedom so long as it was founded upon the principles of philosophy; but I detest it, as a tool of mischief, in the hands of miscreants like you.”

This great man was sent to the guillotine on the 12th of April, 1794, in the 33d year of his age.

Barnave's eloquence is said to have been the effect of long study, joined to professional practice at the bar, and neither natural nor affecting, especially when compared with the fascinating speeches of Mirabeau. The latter was the orator, the former the rhetorician.

Barnave possessed considerable personal courage. In a duel, which took place in 1790, between him and de Cazalès, who had called him *a banditto*, the seconds reported, that he waited with great *sang froid*, and an unmoved countenance, while his antagonist ground the flint of his pistol, which would not strike fire!

BUONARROTI.

Philip Buonarroti, born at Florence, in the year 1760, was of noble extraction, and descended in a right line from the celebrated *Michael Angelo*.

He was educated at the university of Pisa, where he discovered great energy of mind, and an indefatigable zeal for study. He addicted himself in particular to the cultivation of philosophy, politics, and history. He also exhibited a favourable specimen of his talents by means of dissertations and essays on a variety of subjects.

These promising dispositions ingratiated him with the Grand Duke, Leopold, who made it a point to favour all the descendants of the illustrious men of Florence, and especially the families of Buonarroti, Vespucci, and Galilei, whose ancestors had done so much honour to that Athens of Italy.

As soon as Buonarroti had left the university, the Grand Duke created him a Knight of the order of St. Stephen, and offered him a distinguished place in his court, with a large pension. He was fully sensible of these marks of favour, and actually accepted the order of knighthood, but declined the place at court, as it would have been inconsistent with the prosecution of his studies.

When the French Revolution took place, Buonarroti was too great an adept in politics not to approve of it, and too sincere to conceal his opinions; the Grand Duke, upon this, exiled him from Tuscany. He immediately took refuge in Corsica, with his wife and children; and soon after his arrival began to publish a patriotic journal, entitled, "*L'Amico della Libertà Italiana*,"—"The Friend of Italian Liberty."

The Constituent Assembly having finished its functions, and the Corsican deputies being returned from Paris, Saliceti was glad to find an old friend in his native country.

Not long after this period (in 1792) the second legislature was dissolved, and a National Convention summoned. Saliceti being elected to it, prevailed on Buonarroti to accompany him to Paris, where, in his
opinion,

opinion, his talents and labours would be exceedingly useful to the cause of liberty. He accordingly repaired thither, was received with the highest marks of esteem by the Republicans, and adopted into the famous popular society of *the Friends of Liberty*, better known under the name of *the Jacobins*. In this situation he became intimately connected with Ricord, Languelot, Vadier, and many others of the Mountain party.

Three or four months after the convocation of the National Convention (in the winter of 1792), an insurrection broke out in Corsica; and it being necessary to send a commissioner there with full powers, the choice fell on Buonarroti, who was possessed of all the personal and local requisites. He accordingly repaired to that island, and did every thing in his power to restore order, but he proved unsuccessful. A conspiracy was formed by the Royalists to assassinate him; and, indeed, he was one night actually assaulted by them in his own house, and made his escape through a window, amidst a discharge of pistols.

Buonarroti was lucky enough to retire in safety from Corsica, and to return to Paris. From his known zeal and energy, a new and more dangerous commission was entrusted to him. Lyons was agitated by a strong counter-revolutionary spirit; but the executive council still hoped to be able to eradicate its spirit of *royalism* and *fanaticism* by fair means, Buonarroti and Maillot, another active patriot, were therefore sent thither as commissioners.

During

During their journey, this mission assumed a more serious aspect, for the famous Mayor, Challier, had already been judicially assassinated. The same fate was designed for Buonarroti and Maillot ; and, as soon as they reached the insurgent city, they were stopped, and carried before the president of the rebellious sections. They were then put into prison, and tried. But on the eve of the day appointed for their execution, Collot d'Herbois arrived, and the Republican army entering the place, Buonarroti and his colleague were saved.

Buonarroti now entreated Collot d'Herbois that he might be stationed in a more peaceable situation, since he had twice escaped the danger of assassination. Collot, therefore, recommended him to his colleagues, Ricord and Robespierre the Younger, who were on mission at Nice, and by them he was appointed a member of the Military Tribunal of the army of Italy ; but he did not remain long in that station.

In the course of the next spring (April, 1794) the Republicans made further conquests in the dominions of the King of Sardinia, and the representative commissioners (Ricord and Robespierre the Younger) feeling the necessity of employing, within those new acquisitions, a man acquainted with the Italian language, and who possessed some knowledge of the manners of the Piedmontese, appointed Buonarroti agent of the Republic in all the conquered countries.

It was in this new situation that he exhibited a degree of justice and disinterestedness, which acquired

quired him great celebrity in the eyes both of the French and of the Italians. Although at the head of an immense administration, he not only proved himself inaccessible to bribery and peculation, but actually expended the produce of all his appointments in relieving and succouring patriots and soldiers who hazarded their lives for their country. Being asked why he preferred poverty to affluence, he replied, that his only motive in coming to France was to be serviceable to the cause of liberty, and that if he had preferred riches he would not have left his prosperous situation in Florence.

The death of Robespierre produced great changes in the French government. A new party arose, which endeavoured to annihilate all those who had been in power during the revolutionary administration which preceded.

In the winter of 1795, orders were issued by the Committee of General Security to citizen Tureau, the representative at Nice, to imprison Buonarroti, and send him to Paris. Tureau, who esteemed Buonarroti, could not help exclaiming publicly, "*Voilà encore une victime du Fréronisme!*" (for Freron was considered at the head of the prevailing party).

He did this that the order might be divulged, and that Buonarroti, having timely notice, might take proper steps for his preservation; he even delayed executing the commands of the committee for ten days. His scheme succeeded; and Buonarroti was informed of his impending fate. His secretary advised him to escape, and convey away the money that

was in the chest of the administration, which amounted to about 300,000 French livres. Buonarroti highly resenting this advice, replied with firmness—“ *Why should I leave so base a stain upon my character? Have I been guilty of any crime? I trust I shall not be proscribed while innocent. Should it happen so, have not Themistocles and Camillus undergone the same fate? I yield to my destiny, and consent to go to prison, and await the event of my trial.*”

Buonarroti was accordingly seized by the gendarmerie, and carried to Paris. He suffered the greatest distress in the prison *Du Plessis*, and endeavoured to earn a subsistence while detained there by teaching music. Unshaken in his principles, he was not discouraged by his confinement and distress. “ *I find,*” said he, “ *that Rousseau was altogether right, when he recommended to his Emilius t’^e attainment of some art, which might prove useful to him in time of want. I had studied music for my recreation, I am now obliged to have recourse to it for my subsistence.*”

Buonarroti was confined in this prison when the contest took place between the National Convention and the sections at Paris. Being asked whether he did not rejoice to see the Convention menaced by the same Royalists whom the Freronian faction had caressed? He answered, with his usual patriotism, “ *that he sacrificed all personal resentment to the public welfare, and that if the Convention wanted a soldier to fight for the public cause, he would readily take up arms in their behalf, although he had experienced the greatest injustice from them.*”

Some days prior to the famous 13th Vendemiaire, a general amnesty was proclaimed to all the confined patriots, and Buonarroti on this was set at liberty. As soon as the new constitution was organized, many of the most zealous of the Republicans suspected that it was not sufficiently democratical. They feared that aristocracy might, sooner or later, rear its head. They therefore instituted a popular society in an apartment near the Pantheon, the object of which was to watch the conduct of the government. Of this, the first president was the famous painter, David; and Buonarroti succeeded him. Their meetings continued almost the whole winter of 1796, but the Directory at length deemed it prudent to suppress this new club.

About that time, the famous conspiracy of Drouet and Babœuf was discovered, and Buonarroti, as well as some other ex-deputies of the Convention, were implicated in it. The scheme of this insurrection was to overturn the constitution of 1795, which they called the *patrician code* of Boissy d'Anglas, and to renew that of 1793, the true democratic constitution, founded on the principles of Thomas Paine. The dialogue which took place between the president of the military commission, appointed by the Directory, and Buonarroti was curious.

“ Did you conspire ?” said the President.

“ Yes !” answered Buonarroti.

“ What motive induced you to conspire ?”

“ The love of mankind.”

“ What were the principles which directed you ?”

“ The

“ The rights of man.”

“ But did you intend to overthrow the present constitution ?”

“ Yes ; and till I cease to live, I will ever conspire against tyrants ; was it worth while to shed the blood of two millions of citizens, in order to restore slavery again ? Was it worth while to crush the *ci-devant*, in order to bow to the *ci-après* ?”

“ But are you not a foreigner ?”

“ No man is an alien to the cause of human nature.”

During the confinement of Buonarroti, the Prince Corsini, ambassador from the present Grand Duke of Tuscany, intimated to him, that he would intercede with the Directory, and procure him his liberty, and that his sentence should simply be banishment from France, if he would engage to return to Florence, and resume his former rank. Buonarroti replied, that he had relinquished his rank for ever in Italy ; that he was a friend to freedom, and that he wished to remain in France, to enjoy the *vestigia morientis libertatis* !

This magnanimous and accomplished character was afterwards sent, along with the other prisoners, before the high national court at Vendome. The Paris newspapers passed high encomiums on the elegant and philosophical speeches which he made before his judges, notwithstanding which, we learn by posterior accounts, that Babœuf and another were condemned to death ; and that the gallant and unfortunate Buonarroti was sentenced, on the 28th of May, to be transported to Guiana !

JOSEPH LEBON,

Whose cruelties at Arras, and in the northern departments of France, rivalled those of the sanguinary Carrier on the coasts of the ocean, was originally a priest of the Oratory.

He was afterwards professor of rhetoric, either at Beaune or Dijon, in Burgundy ; and vicar (*curé*) in the department by which he was elected a member of the Convention.

In this situation, his fanaticism brought on so outrageous a fit of madness, that it was necessary to chain him down during his cure. At the Revolution, he had discarded all the tenets of the Catholics, and assumed the title of priest of the Almighty, which he also laid aside ; at last he professed himself openly an Atheist. Such was the singular progress of religious opinions in the mind of this sanguinary monster !

It was not till he was sent as commissioner of the legislative body, into the department of the North, that he discovered that atrocious disposition, of which the following words, in a letter to the district of St. Omer, exhibit an early indication :—" Do not let a single rich man, or a man of sense, escape imprisonment, unless he has shown himself a strong and early friend to the Revolution."

In the popular societies he used to say—" *Sans culottes*, it is for you that we guillotine ; if the guillotine be stopped, you will be destitute of every thing—you will starve. It is high time for the *sans culottes* to supplant the rich." His affection for the poor was,

was, however, entirely forgotten, when, by the following curious mandate, he ordered all the inhabitants of the village of which he had been vicar, to be sent to gaol :

“ In the name of the French people, Joseph Lebon, charges the municipal officers of Neuville-la-Liberté, to take into custody, and convey to Arras, all the males and females who, in 1792, and in 1793, did not attend the masses of the constitutional priests ; a necessary folly in those days.”

At Arras, he had established a revolutionary tribunal, the members of which he used to imprison, when the sentences they pronounced had not gratified his insatiable thirst for blood. On the days of execution (his favourite festivals !) he used to run about the streets, with the collar of his shirt unbuttoned, dragging a huge scymitar after him, and crying out : “ Their business is done—you will see them go by presently, in their way to the scaffold.” After this he constantly dined with the judges, the jurors, and the common hangman.

Armed with his long sabre, and with pistols in his girdle, he was constantly flying backward and forward between Arras and Cambray, accompanied by executioners, a guillotine, a band of music, and players, who called themselves the revolutionary company. One of the hangmen who had been barbarous enough to thrust a bleeding head into the face of a condemned man, standing on the scaffold, was a great favourite of Lebon's. Sometimes he would come himself to count the heads that had been cut off ; and once,

at Arras, he harangued the populace out of a window immediately over the guillotine, while the executioner was performing his bloody task.

When the reign of the Terrorists was over, Joseph Lebon was one of the chiefs who suffered the punishment due to their enormous crimes. His own head then fell beneath the guillotine, which he had so often supplied with victims—a poor compensation for the unheard-of cruelties with which he had desolated and terrified the northern departments of France!

THE DUKE DE ROCHEFOUCAULD.

The blood of the nobles and priests murdered in the prisons of Paris, at the beginning of September, 1793, was still flowing, when that of a more illustrious victim than any of them was shed, at a distance from the capital.

This was Rochefoucauld, a *ci-devant* duke, and member of the Constituent Assembly, where he had often displayed those talents which for two centuries past had been hereditary in his family. He was particularly skilful in finance, and was generally the reporter of the committee appointed to watch over that branch of the public service. His conduct was uniformly governed by the principles of the soundest philosophy, and all his views directed toward the public advantage.

The Commune at Paris issued a warrant to take him into custody on the 16th of August; but he received timely intimation of his danger, and concealed himself

himself for a fortnight in a little farm-house on one of his estates, situated in the midst of a wood. Thinking the storm was then blown over, he had the imprudence to join his family, at Forges. No sooner, however, was he there, than spies, who, doubtless had been sent in pursuit of him, gave information of his re-appearance to the municipality of Paris, by whom the warrant for his apprehension was renewed, and the putting of it into execution intrusted to a man of the name of Bouvard, an inhabitant of Vernon.

Bouvard repaired to Forges for that purpose on the 2d of September; but it was not till the evening of the following day that he set off for Gournai with Rochefoucauld and his family, who were also taken into custody. This delay, and the road he took, gave room to suspect that he was waiting till a band of assassins should be organized. It is certain at least that he contrived to reach Gournai on a market day, as if he meant to expose his prisoner to the fury of the assembled populace. A variety of obstacles concurring at Gournai, to prevent any mischief, he went on to Gisors, where the most ignorant part of the populace, in conjunction with a battalion of national guards that happened to be stationed there, insisted, with loud cries, that M. de Rochefoucauld should be shewn to them—with what intention, was but too well proved by the event.

Bouvard, without waiting for the crowd to disperse, gave orders to proceed, as he said, to Vernon; but it was not long before he discovered the purpose of

of his mind ; for scarcely had the carriage proceeded a few yards, when he insisted on M. de Rochefoucauld's getting out, and walking before the horses, although it was evident, that the prisoner would have been much safer in the coach, than in the midst of the assassins by whom he was surrounded.

At the extremity of the suburbs, he ordered the carriages and the escort to stop ; and in an instant M. de Rochefaucauld was assailed with pikes and sabres, and deprived of life, before the face of his wife and mother, and in the midst of the constituted authorities of Gisors, of the national guards, and a detachment of *gendarmes*.—When the latter were reproached for defending him no better, they answered, that his life was not to be saved, and that it was very fortunate his family did not share his fate !

This atrocious murder was committed on the 4th of September, 1792, about three o'clock in the afternoon.

A base attempt has been made to tarnish the memory of Condorcet, by insinuating, that he was privy to the murder of his benefactor, but it is equally cowardly and false.

ALBITTE.

Albitte is a native of Dieppe, in Normandy. He was educated for the profession of the law, but had not time to settle himself in business before the Revolution took place.

The greatest reproach which the aristocracy have cast on the National Convention is, that it consisted,
for

for the most part, of young barristers and attorneys; who, after the first and second emigrations, which deprived France of most of the men of the first-rate talents, found it easy to proclaim their abilities by vehement vociferations and incendiary motions in the popular societies.

Allowing this imputation to be true in general, it applies to no person more than it does to Albitte. Indeed, his principal merit in procuring himself to be appointed a deputy to the National Convention, was the zeal and assiduity evinced by him in the political clubs of his district.

Albitte was a zealous *Mountaineer*, as well as a Jacobin, and a Robespierrist in every sense of the word. During the prevalence of that faction, he was, therefore, constantly employed in missions to the South, particularly Lyons, Savoy, and Nice.

He served the Republic essentially while in this capacity, and acquired the reputation of a man of profound understanding. He was accused, however, of having been in Lyons, a minister of the *Fuillades*, projected by Collot d'Herbois, with having delivered the houses of the aristocracy in that unfortunate city to be plundered by the soldiers—with having subjected the clergymen in Savoy to a rigorous responsibility for all events which had a tendency to disturb the public peace—and with having oppressed the inhabitants of the county of Nice with the most galling requisitions.

As soon as the moderate party began to treat for peace, the representatives of the people on mission
were

were recalled to Paris; and as a terrible day of retribution hung over the heads of the *Mountaineers*, Albitte was not likely to escape. After the revolt of the 1st Prairial, a decree of arrest was accordingly issued against him and many others of his friends, but being solely grounded on the circumstance of their having formerly belonged to the once famous *Mountain*, it was highly disapproved of, even by the aristocracy and royalists themselves. Albitte was at length fortunate enough to make his escape from Paris, and to find refuge in his native department.

It appeared afterwards, however, that this measure was only intended to prevent the *Mountaineers* from throwing obstacles in the way of the new constitution, which was then preparing, for no sooner was the government established, than a decree of amnesty was published, in favour of all persons culpable on account of their pristine opinions; and the genuine republican spirit of Albitte was so far admitted, that he was appointed, by the Directory, a *mayor*, or president, of the municipal commission of Dieppe, the place of his nativity.

If we may credit the lately suppressed royalist journals of Paris, Albitte was one among the many strangers and departmental men who were summoned to Paris to support the cause of the Directory, and he is acknowledged to have been one of the most active. Supposing this true, could any thing be more natural than that the Republic should be supported by her founders? They are compelled, even in their

own defence, to make a common cause with the Directory against the movements of the Bourbon party.

Albitte is about thirty-one years of age, tall, and well-shaped. In his figure, he was one of the best looking men in the Convention. He was remarkable also for his easy and fervid eloquence in the tribune, and his very obliging manners and polite conversation in private life.

DUMOLARD,

A native of Caudebec, in Normandy, is descended of a noble family, and was formerly lord of a small *seignory* near Rouen. He became an early proficient in literature, made considerable progress in the study of civil law, and was endeavouring to procure admission into the parliament of Normandy, in the capacity of a counsellor, when the Revolution suddenly deprived him of that resource.

He had already expended the greater part of his fortune, and was aware that it was necessary for him to follow the stream, if he wished to acquire a comfortable situation under the new order of things. Accordingly, upon the first breaking out of the war in the Netherlands, in April, 1792, he repaired to the army, commanded at that time by marechal de Rochambeau. He was beginning to obtain preferment, when the transactions of the famous 10th of August rendered the convocation of a National Convention necessary. The numberless emigrations of the gentry of Normandy, and others who had received

ed a liberal education, induced Dumolard to think there was a probability of his being appointed a deputy, should he return to his own department. He accordingly offered himself as a candidate, and was elected.

In a state of great public fermentation, those persons act the most interesting parts who possess the greatest energy, and spirit of enterprize. In such circumstances, rank and even talents are little attended to. This consideration will account for his having made no splendid figure in the Convention. He merely proposed some amendments in the new constitution, in the summer of 1795; which, being obviously dictated by good sense, were immediately adopted.

Having continued, by lot, a member of the fourth legislature, he has distinguished himself in it by an apparent spirit of moderation in every motion which related either to liberty of opinion and religious worship, or to the finances and public contributions.

Dumolard, by remaining a member of the present Council of Five Hundred, is one of the old, or last third. He has distinguished himself on several recent occasions, by his motions for declaring that the soldiers of the army of Italy, in accelerating a peace with the Emperor, had deserved well of their country and mankind; by his eloquent speech on the anniversary of the 10th of August; by his apology for the constituted authorities of the Republic; and by many other exertions of his talents.

Dumolard has, however, been always considered

as a friend to monarchy; and he himself has not scrupled to acknowledge it. One day, when at table with some select friends, being asked, why he acted in the council the part of a republican, contrary to his real sentiments?—“*The Marquis d’Argens*,” answered he, “*observes, that when the ass spoke to the prophet Balaam, he adopted the language of men; but that if the prophet Balaam had intended to speak to asses, he would have adopted their language, in order to make himself understood.*” Such being his sentiments, it is not wonderful that he was included in the late proscription of the royalist party, which took place on the 18th Fructidor.

Dumolard is about thirty-two years of age, of short stature, long and dark visaged: he is extremely polite; and in conversation highly entertaining and instructive.

LAFAYETTE.

The father of this celebrated man, was of a noble family, and a colonel in the French service. He married a lady of the house of Chavagnac, in Auvergne, and of that marriage was born the Marquis de la Fayette, at the castle of Chavagnac.

Young Lafayette remained not long in Auvergne; for as his father had a magnificent palace at Paris, where he chiefly resided, he was there brought up, till he was old enough to be admitted into the college of Louis le Grand, where he finished his education.

Upon leaving the university, he entered in the *mus-*
queteers

quiteers as a volunteer, and married, whilst he was in that body, a lady of the celebrated family of Noailles, the courageous, unfortunate, and amiable daughter of the Duc d'Ayen.

Lafayette was nineteen years old when he determined to take an active part in the struggle for American liberty. No power had yet openly espoused the cause, although all of them rejoiced in the revolt of the British colonies, and in the prospect it opened of their separation from the mother country.—La Fayette having secretly concerted his measures with the American agents in France, was on the point of his departure, when they received fresh advices from America, that the affairs of the Congress were in the most deplorable situation. On their representing, that they thought it their duty to dissuade him from his attempt at so critical a moment, as he could not fail to be involved in the ruin of the Congress: “*Then it is so much the more incumbent upon me,*” he replied, “*to hasten my departure.*”

It is well known how much his assistance contributed to retrieve the affairs of the trans-atlantic continent; how ably his military and political services supported that revolution, and that by means of the change effected in the public opinion in France, the court of Versailles at length determined to espouse the cause of the Congress. To that single circumstance, therefore, may be referred the establishment of American independence.

Lafayette's pecuniary sacrifices, on the occasion, were great; he returned to France for the express

purpose of procuring succours in ships, men, money, and military stores, and refused any command, till his blood, shed on the field of battle, and his successes, had entitled him to it. During the winter of 1777-8, a cabal was formed against Washington, and Gates, lately made minister of war, proposed to Lafayette, in the name of the Congress, to undertake the chief command of the northern army; which, by rendering him, at twenty years of age, independent of the above general, opened to him the prospect of a glorious career. But, faithful to friendship, and aware of the fatal consequences of such intrigues, he would accept the command only with the participation, and on condition of being under the orders of Washington.

After his return to France, he brought an accusation, in 1788, against Calonne, in the assembly of notables, for exchanging the national domains, and appropriating millions of their revenues to gratify the queen, the count d'Artois, and the rest of the court cabal.

He was the first who proposed to the National Assembly, the drawing up a *declaration of rights*, which he did so early as the 11th of July, 1789. A copy of this paper was transmitted by him to the electors of Paris, then assembled, that it might be read to the people, and it was accompanied with the following well-known energetic address:

“Call to mind the sentiments which nature has engraven upon the heart of every citizen; and which assumes a new force, when recognized by all.—For a na-

tion to love liberty, it is sufficient that she knows it; and to be free, it is sufficient that she will it." On this occasion Mirabeau is said to have felt a pang of envy, that another patriot should have thus given the first hint of so important a project, as that of a new constitution.

Among the numerous plans of a *Declaration of Rights*, the most distinguished were those of the Abbé Syeyes, M. de Lafayette, and M. Mounier; the two last corresponded very nearly in principle.

After the recall of Necker, Bailly was chosen mayor, and the Marquis de Lafayette commander-in-chief of the national guards of Paris.

On the famous 5th of October, 1789, a deputation of the citizens presented themselves to Lafayette, exclaiming, "We will go in search of the King, and bring him to Paris: we must also exterminate the regiment of Flanders, and the body-guards." He received at the same instant a letter from the municipality, enjoining him to march to Versailles: on receiving this order, he reluctantly commanded the battalions of the national guards to obey.

The troops, on their arrival at the royal residence, on the evening of the 5th, sought for lodging and repose, and their commander also retired to rest.—Early in the morning, however, a horrible train of calamities, roused him from his indifference and security. He instantly made every exertion to save the body-guards, and it is believed, if he had not vigorously interposed as he did, a still greater number

of victims would have fallen on that disastrous morning.

On the grand confederation of the 14th of July, 1789, a spectacle unprecedented for sublimity took place in the *Champ de Mars*. The King, who had been nominated, for this day alone, to the supreme and absolute command of all the national guards of France, deputed his authority to Lafayette ; so that he was on that occasion generalissimo of no less than six millions of armed men!

On the evening before the impolitic flight of Louis XVI, from which event all the subsequent evils of France may be dated, Bailly, the mayor of Paris, communicated to Lafayette his suspicions, and reminded him how much it was his duty to guard the *Thuilleries*. Lafayette on this went to the palace, renewed himself the watch-word at all the entrances, and left Gouvion, his major-general, at the gate of *Villequier*, to pass the whole night there.

After the return of the King, Lafayette was believed to be reconciled to the Lameths and their party, and it was under the influence of that supposed reconciliation, that the unfortunate affair took place at the *Champ de Mars*. The firing upon the tumultuous people was deemed a conspiracy to assassinate the true patriots, and afterwards proved fatal to the life of Bailly, and the reputation of Lafayette.

In consequence of the events of the 20th of June, 1792, Lafayette, who was then commandant of the army upon the frontiers, wrote a menacing letter against the instigators of the outrage on the King,
and

and also presented himself, on the 29th of June, at the bar of the Assembly, to demand that a prosecution might be commenced against them, and that the Jacobin club should be abolished!

After the 10th of August, several of his letters were found in the palace, conceived to be discreditable to his patriotism, and which tended not a little to disgrace him in the eyes of the Parisians. His name was inserted afterwards in the indictment against Marie Antoinette. He is there called "*in every sense of the word, a favourite of the widow Capet.*" It is certain, however, that he was far from being in the good graces of her Majesty; on the contrary, she often used to say to her friends: "*Must I always have that coxcomb before my eyes?*" If, therefore, recourse was had to Lafayette, to answer any purpose of the court, it was only because he was commander of the national guards.

Two or three instances may be cited, to prove that the ambition of promoting the cause of freedom, and the improvement and happiness of his country, was the only motive that ever actuated this amiable man: When at the head of the national guards, and possessing considerable influence in the revolutionary government, he, more than any other person, pressed for the organization of a constitution. Being informed that the deputies of the confederated national guards of France designed to invest him with the title of their generalissimo, he proposed, that the National Assembly should decree it unconstitutional to command the national guards of more than one district.

When fifteen thousand of those confederated national guards surrounded him, rending the air with their acclamations, he made use of these words: "Notwithstanding my gratitude to you for your affection, I cannot refrain from an emotion of terror: reserve that enthusiasm for the cause of liberty, and that unbounded attachment only for the laws."

As soon as the constitution was finished, he resigned the immense power with which he had been entrusted; retired to his estate, three hundred and sixty miles from the capital, where he resisted all solicitations; and could not be prevailed on to leave his retirement, till the breaking-out of the war made it his duty to accept of that fatal command which had been conferred on him by the unanimous voice of a fickle nation.

It so happened, however, that he had neither time nor opportunity to display his military talents in their full extent: the glory of saving France was reserved for his rivals in arms. He acted, however, a nobler part in disgrace; for he scorned, like Dumouriez, to capitulate with the enemies of his country. He did not deliver himself up, but fell into their hands, in consequence of a violation of the law of nations; for he was seized on neutral ground, and treated as a prisoner of war, after he had ceased to be a soldier.

His imprisonment in the dungeons of Olmutz, reflects no great honour on the house of Austria*, and

* It is to be hoped that the Ministers alone are to be blamed in this affair, as it surely could never have entered the mind of young and amiable Monarch.

has contributed not a little to explain the true motives of those monarchs on the continent, who embarked in the present war, under the pretext of supporting religion, and restoring order.

In consequence of a letter from Madame Lafayette to a distinguished personage in England, a motion was made in the House of Commons, by General Fitzpatrick, relative to the detention of her husband; and such was the effect produced in this country, and throughout all Europe, in consequence of the eloquent speech on this occasion, that a period was put to his captivity.

Lafayette was at length released in January 1797, and was required by the Marquis de Chastiller, to sign a declaration, amounting to somewhat like a conditional agreement, relative to his enlargement. He denied, however, the *right* of his Imperial Majesty, to order him to repair to America; and in the article, in which he agreed never to set foot in the hereditary states, he stipulated, that this should not be supposed to contravene any claim his country had to his services.

General Lafayette resides at present, with his family, in the neighbourhood of Hamburgh, and is not yet wholly recovered from the severities he experienced at Olmutz.

LE CHAPELIER.

Isaac le Chapelier was born at Rennes, where his father was an eminent lawyer, counsellor of the states of Brittany, and *substitut* of the general syndics

of the province ; his family was respectable, and his reputation for probity procured him letters of nobility, which were granted him by Louis XV, in consequence of the demand of the states. The son, however, notwithstanding he was a favourite of the court, and of the privileged orders, became one of the greatest enemies to the throne, and to nobility.

Young Chapelier was brought up in the college at Rennes, and distinguished himself early by his extraordinary attainments. He became in due time an advocate, and soon obtained the reputation of an accomplished orator. His manner abounded in dignity, elegance, and grace ; and his style united the force of Demosthenes with the persuasive eloquence of Cicero.

In 1789, he was elected deputy to the Constituent Assembly, and displayed wonderful powers of oratory, from its first commencement. He was soon ranked, indeed, among its most celebrated leaders, and was chosen president : his presidency was distinguished by the remarkable circumstance, that he was the first in that office who had occasion to assume a pre-eminence over the king.

In the beginning of the Revolution, many of the country-seats of the nobility were reduced to ashes ; this was more particularly the case in Brittany, and Le Chapelier was strongly suspected of having been instrumental in the destruction of many of them.—It appeared that he wrote a letter to a man of the name of Valés de Loyac ; the private instructions of which were observed so well by his correspondent,
that

that he was afterwards imprisoned, and would have been punished with death, if he had not been protected by the influence of Le Chapelier. This fact appeared so notorious, that the Viscount de Mirabeau, (brother to the great Mirabeau) having a beautiful country-house in Brittany, and being alarmed for its fate, threatened Le Chapelier openly in the Assembly, and told him, if his seat were destroyed, he would make him answerable for the loss.

Le Chapelier experienced the fate of a large portion of the founders of the Republic. An energetic republican observes, "that it is a lamentable fact, that the historian of the Revolution scarcely mentions any person of importance, whose sufferings he has not subsequently to relate." It was peculiar in the fate of Le Chapelier; that he, who, during the Constituent Assembly, had constantly sat on the left side, and never suffered an opportunity to escape him of humbling the nobles and privileged orders, should be afterwards accused of having conspired against the Republic, with the very men whose country-seats he was supposed to have burnt, and to whom he had always been a declared enemy.

Under the domination of Robespierre, he was accused of having entered into a plot, with Deprémeuil, Malesherbes de Lamoignon, Madame le Pelletier-Rosambo, daughter to Malesherbes, the ladies De Château Brilliant, De Rochochoir, the celebrated Thouret, and many others, all of them of the first distinction. They were accordingly conducted to the unsparing guillotine, on the 22d of April,

1794, three months before the fall of the detestable tyrant, who spilled such torrents of the best blood of his fellow-citizens.

The followidg Latin verses were written upon the death of Le Chapelier.

Cur periit vir qui tot tantaque Crimina fecit ?

Non satis ipse ferox atque rebellis erat.

Aras destruxit, Regi abstulit ipse Coronam ;

Crimina quid prosunt ? non *Jacobinus* erat.

Le Chapelier was of a middle stature, his face was oval and flat, and his complexion yellow. Being short-sighted, he constantly wore spectacles. In his dress he was extremely elegant, and always fashionable ; being the model of all the *beaux* at Rennes. He wore his hair extremely well curled, and powdered ; and his hands were loaded with rings, for he was never seen without six or seven of them at a time. He was no less fashionable in regard to the furniture of his house, and used to change it as often as the mode varied.

VICTOR HUGUES.

A more extraordinary character has scarcely commanded attention since the commencement of the French Revolution, than Victor Hugues. He was unknown before the year 1792, except as a subaltern officer.

The miserable state to which the French West India Islands were reduced, during the first year of the Republic, occasioned the famous (many say *infamous*) committee of *salût public* to send out commissioners

missioners, with extraordinary powers, to endeavour to restore them to the dominion of the mother country. They had been dissevered partly by internal dissensions, and partly by the hostile forces of Great Britain.

The National Convention had just passed a decree, declaring, that negro-slavery in all the French colonies was abolished; and that all men, without distinction of colour, *domiciliated* in the colonies (i. e. settled as in a home), were French citizens, and entitled to all the rights confirmed by the constitution. It was for some time a dispute in the committee, whether this signal decree should be committed to a general who had already distinguished himself in the army of the Rhine, or to Hugues, Chrétien, &c. strongly recommended by two members of the other committees of government, who were acquainted with their patriotism and courage.

Two other commissioners were united to Victor Hugues: he appears, however, to have undertaken the most dangerous part of their duty. He put his life to the greatest hazard, in carrying the decree and his own proclamations among the revolted negroes, who had assembled in vast numbers, in defiance of all government; and he had address enough to convey them into the British lines, and thereby greatly shook the attachment of the armed slaves to the British cause.

His proclamation was the most undaunted step ever taken; and to it, more than to any other measure, do the French ascribe their good fortune in recovering their much-valued island of Guadaloupe.

Victor

VICTOR HUGUES made his landing good at Point Petre, notwithstanding a powerful British fleet lay within five leagues of it ; and, by a promptitude and hardihood which have, perhaps, surpassed any action of an individual since the commencement of the Revolution, brought the island within the pale of the republican government. He afterwards carried hostilities into two neighbouring colonies, and realized, by his own share of the captures, a fortune, it is said, of no less than eight millions of livres. Such has been the success of a commissioner of the new government, with the *brevet*, or *local rank*, of general, *armed* chiefly with a decree of enfranchisement to slaves, who, though our fellow-creatures, are impiously pronounced unworthy to receive, or unable to maintain liberty.

VICTOR HUGUES has been continued in his command, after the fall of his original patrons ; but that circumstance arose entirely from the distance of the theatre on which he had been acting.

He has achieved much, yet he deserves neither love nor admiration ; for he may be truly said not to possess a single drop of the “ milk of human kindness ” in his whole composition. In the days of Jacobin frenzy, he might have been panegyricized, as he expected ; now that phrenzy has passed by, his conduct, like that of his party, is of course devoted to the execration of mankind*.

SANTERRE.

* The following arret, issued by Victor Hugues, first gave rise to the disputes between America and France.

“ EQUALITY !

SANTERRE.

The history of Masaneillo, a poor fisherman of Naples, who suddenly became a commander of

150,000

“ EQUALITY !

LIBERTY !

A R R E T.

“ The Special Agents of the Executive Directory in the West Indies—

“ Considering that the ports of the islands at the windward and leeward, as well as those of Demarara, Essequibo, and Berbice, delivered up to the English, occupied and defended by the Emigrants, are in a state of permanent siege, and ought not to enjoy the same advantages as the ports of the different English Colonies possessed by that power before the war :

“ Considering it to be contrary to every principle to treat a horde of rebels, without country, without government or a flag, with the same regard which civilized nations observe among themselves during war :

“ Considering, that, by authentic acts in our possession, it is proved that divers places of the colonies delivered to the English by the French and Dutch rebels, belong not to the British government more than La Vendée, in which the English Ministry had also their mercenary troops, regiments in their pay wearing the same uniform as the troops of the King of England :

“ Considering, that by virtue of the second article of the Treaty of Alliance concluded at Paris Feb. 6, 1778, between the United States and France, the former power engages to defend the possessions of America in case of war, and the government and commerce of the United States, have strangely abused the forbearance of the French Republic, in turning to her detriment the favours which had been accorded to them, of entering and trading in all the ports of the French Colonies :

“ By permitting for a longer time neutral vessels to carry provisions of war and of subsistence to men evidently in a state of rebellion,

150,000 men, during an insurrection against the Spanish viceroy, was, previously to the French Revolution,

rebellion, we should be the means of prolonging civil war, and the calamities and the crimes which proceed therefrom :

“ Order as follows—

“ Art. I. The ships of the Republic, and French privateers, are authorised to take and conduct into the ports of the Republic, neutral vessels destined for the Windward and Leeward Islands of America, delivered up to the English, occupied and defended by the emigrants.

“ These ports are Martinique, St. Lucia, Tobago, Demerara, Berbice, Essequibo; and at the Leeward, Port-au-Prince, St. Mark's, l'Archayes, and Jeremie.

“ Art. II. Every armed vessel, having a commission from either of those ports, shall be reputed a pirate, and the crews adjudged and punished as such.

“ Art. III. The vessels and cargoes, described in the first and second articles, are declared good prizes, and shall be sold for the benefit of the captors.

“ Art. IV. Every vessel taken which shall be cleared out to the West Indies generally, is comprehended in the first and second articles.

“ Art. V. The order of last Nivose 4th, in pursuance of the decree of the Executive Directory of the 14th Messidor, 4th year, shall be executed till further orders, in every particular not contravening this ordinance.

“ This order shall be printed, transcribed into the Register of the Criminal Tribunal and of Commerce, sent to all the ports of the French Colonies, read, published, and posted up, wherever it may be necessary.

“ It shall be notified officially to the neutral governments of St. Croix, St. Thomas, and St. Bartholomew's.

“ Enjoining on the Criminal Tribunal and of Commerce in Guadaloupe, their delegates in the different French Colonies and elsewhere, on the Admiral Commandant on the West India station,

lution, one of the most prominent instances of the vicissitudes of human affairs. The elevation of Santerre, to the rank of commander-in-chief of the national guards of France, forms now, however, a phenomenon hardly less astonishing than the elevation of Masaneillo.

Santerre was a brewer in the *Fauxbourg St. Antoine*; and carrying on an extensive trade, he gave employment to a considerable number of people.—He was consequently exceedingly popular, among the *Canaille*, of that Spital-fields of Paris. As early as 1789, he was a distinguished reformer, and took an active part, in conjunction with Legendre, Saint Huruge, and other popular leaders.

At the time of the organization of the national guard, he was appointed commander of the battalion of the *Enfans Trouvés*, a situation extremely suitable to a man of his situation and influence.

In the *Fauxbourg St. Antoine*, Santerre soon became what Camille Desmoulins was in the *Palais Royal*—a man who led all the inhabitants within its jurisdiction. The first event which distinguished him occurred during the famous 20th of June, 1792, when the inhabitants of the suburbs marched in arms to the King's palace, to force him to sanction the

tion, and on the Administration, strictly to execute this arret, each in his respective department.

“ Done at Basseterre, Guadaloupe, the 13th Pluviose, 5th year of the French Republic, one and indivisible.

(Signed)

“ VICTOR HUGUES,

“ LESAS.”

two decrees relative to the clergy and the defence of the capital. He was certainly the chief promoter of the outrages of that day. The ringleaders had a meeting either at his house, or in the hall of the section *Enfants Trouvés*, where they regulated the schemes necessary to persuade and determine the populace, and when the people set out, Santerre was at the head of his battalion, which, by previous regulation, was to be joined by others on the place of the Bastille. It was remarked that the only body which marched with regularity, and had cannon, was that commanded by him.

The outrageous behaviour of Santerre on this occasion, gave him a claim to the acquaintance of the Duke of Orleans, who conceived so great an esteem for him, that he always invited him to his convivial parties, either at Paris or at Mousseau. This connexion contributed much to his subsequent preferment.

The 10th of August performed what the 20th of June had no more than attempted. Mandat, commandant of the national guard, being represented as a traitor to the public cause, the municipality appointed Santerre to be his successor. His achievements on that never-to-be-forgotten day, as well as the final issue of his activity, are already too public to require notice in this place.

The events which rapidly followed, proved that Santerre was worthy of the confidence which the ruling junto had reposed in him. In November, the same Marseillois and Federalists, who had left the provinces

provinces to assist the Parisians in overturning the throne, publicly revolted, and walking through the streets of Paris, sword in hand, exclaimed—"Off with the heads of Robespierre and Danton.—No trial for the King." Santerre on this occasion, gave orders to the national guard to observe a stricter duty than usual, and caused large patrols to parade every where, especially near the lodgings of those individuals whose lives were in danger. It is owing to a similar vigilance, that the royal family were never able to escape from the Temple.

On the 21st of January, 1793, the day of the King's execution, Santerre commanded the national guard. He was at the foot of the scaffold, and is accused of the most shocking inhumanity to the unfortunate monarch. Louis wished to deliver his dying sentiments to the people. No sooner, however, had he uttered the first words—"Mon peuple," than Santerre violently exclaimed—"You are brought here to die, not to speak;" and gave instant orders for the drums to beat. His friends apologise for this unfeeling conduct, and state, that he was compelled to act as he did, to prevent an insurrection, which might have arisen from the sympathy of the people towards the illustrious sufferer, had he been permitted to address them.

When the civil war in *La Vendée* broke out, the commander of the Parisian guards was appointed one of the generals to act against the rebels. He behaved on that occasion with his usual zeal and promptitude, and obtained several considerable victories.

ries. Under the reign of terror, he was however dismissed, and committed to prison. It is wonderful that so conspicuous a character was never brought to trial, either by Robespierre, or during the re-action of the opposite party. He was indebted for his liberty to the general amnesty, since which he has lived in obscurity.

The present residence of Santerre is not ascertained. In 1795, it was a matter of doubt whether he lived in Paris or the departments. A few months since, it was stated in one of the French papers, that the Directory, in consequence of the threatened struggle with the legislative body, had founded the disposition of the *Fauxbourg St. Antoine*, but without effect, for Santerre was no longer at their head. This proves either that he is not in the capital, or that he has retired from public affairs.

CHENIER.

M. Jos. Chenier was born at Constantinople, in the year 1762. His father was French consul in that city, and well known throughout Europe as a man of letters, by his work, entitled, *The present State of the Empire of Morocco*.

Young Chenier, and two of his brothers, were sent to France for the sake of their education; and they all of them gave the most promising hopes of improvement. At the beginning of the Revolution, Joseph was one of the young literati who evinced the greatest enthusiasm for the new order of things. His first performance, and that which procured him
the

the highest celebrity and favour among the popular party, was the famous tragedy of *Charles the Ninth, or, the School for Kings*. This piece was meant as a satire against despotic governments, the profligacy of courts, religious intrigues, &c. the principal scene contained in it was the dreadful day so well known in the history of France under the name of *La St. Barthelemy*. It was against this play that Mr. Burke fulminated his bitterest invectives, on account of its many indecent scenes, and especially its introducing upon the stage the Cardinal of Lorraine in his pontifical robes: for this Mr. Burke declared, that the author ought to have been sent to the galleys, and the players to the house of correction.

From the year 1789, when his *Charles the Ninth* was first represented, till the year 1792, Chenier lost not a moment of his leisure in directing the public mind by other dramatic productions. During this period, his *Fenelon*, *Visitandines*, &c. were received with uncommon cordiality by the public, and he acquired by them a kind of claim to be appointed a member of the National Convention.

During the greatest agitations of the various factions, Chenier took no considerable share in public affairs: he was serviceable, however, to his country, by his numerous patriotic songs and poems.

The emigrants, always eager to throw odium upon the republicans, unjustly charged him with having contributed to the death of his brother, André Chenier, who was guillotined.* They add, that he did

* July 25th, 1794, under pretext of holding a correspondence with the enemies of the Republic.

this to rid himself of one who was likely to become more conspicuous in the literary world than himself. They insist also, that Chenier, far from interposing his influence in behalf of his unfortunate relative, was heard to say, in the hall of the Convention—*Very well: if my brother be guilty, let him perish.*”

This circumstance, if true, proves the atrocities which may be committed by a mind urged to excess by political fury; his conduct was, however, supposed to be occasioned by the habitual panic arising from a dread of Robespierre, in whose eyes intercession for an accused man was a fatal and inexpressible crime. The calumny, notwithstanding, so far gained ground, that several anonymous letters were addressed to Chenier, from different parts of the Republic, with the motto—“*Cain! restore to us thy brother.*”

Chenier was certainly not a Robespierrist, in the strict sense of the word: he did not, however, coincide with the principles of the succeeding party, who have been denominated the *Thermidorians*. His opposition tended, therefore, to make his republicanism appear in an unfavourable light, and to raise sanguine hopes among the royalists. He was heard, more than once, to complain of the conduct of the ruling party during the summer of 1795, and frequently reproached his colleagues with a line from Horace—*Dum vitant stulti vitia, in contraria currunt.*

While a member of the Committee of General Security, at the time of passing the famous law of the 23d Messidor, third year, by which foreigners of every

every description were enjoined to quit France, he made an eloquent and energetic remonstrance against the measure, and prevailed upon his colleagues not to extend its execution to those who resided in France from the love of liberty, some of whom had even been prosecuted or banished from their native countries merely for adhering to its principles. The *arrêt* of the committee, drawn up by him, purported, accordingly, that the French nation was too generous to drive away from its territories those who had been the victims of liberty, under the despotic governments of their several native countries.

In November, 1795, Chenier at length made his colleagues sensible of the numberless disasters which the *Thermidorian* administration had entailed upon the cause of the Republicans. He denounced to the Convention the wanton massacres that had been perpetrated in the south of France by the disaffected. He stated an occurrence, which he said had taken place in Arles, viz. that a body of royalists, priests, and returned emigrants, had formerly invited the *ci-devant* nobility and gentry of that place to hold a meeting on the quay, bordering upon the Rhône; where, after partaking of ices and other luxuries, they gratified themselves with the cannibal spectacle of seeing the republicans, who had been confined in the prisons on the charge of being Terrorists, thrown from the top of the tower into the river! Chenier was also one of the deputies who predicted that the new constitution of 1795, concerted in the midst of so many factions, could not be carried into execution, without hazard, during the war: he there-

fore concurred with Tallien and others, in proposing a *commission of five*, which should assume the reins of government, and act provisionally. The motion was opposed by Thibadeau, and rejected by the Convention.

On the first assembling of the *National Institute*, in February, 1796, Chenier moved that the meeting should be regulated in the democratic manner: that the eldest member should be appointed president, and the youngest the secretary. He did this, perhaps, with a view that he himself might become their secretary, well knowing that he was the youngest.

In the same sitting, he proposed, that all the members then assembled should take the oath of hatred to royalty, and send a letter to the Directory, declaratory of their adherence to the Republic. This measure, though agreed to and executed, was highly disapproved of by those who either were royalists, or did not concern themselves with political subjects; no one perceiving the necessity of keeping up a connexion between a literary body and the political government.

Chenier has had, perhaps, more enemies to encounter than any other person connected with the Revolution. There is no part of his public or private character which has not been either defamed or attacked.

As inspector of the National Conservatory of Music, his patriotic songs have frequently been subjects of severe criticisms. Factious journalists have called him *Le Turc Chenier*, alluding to his being a native of Constantinople; while others have styled him *Le Cygne de Turquie* (the Turkish Swan). Michaud, editor of *La Quotidienne*, has made a neat anagram upon his name, by rendering *M. I. Chenier* into

Rime

Rime Chien. But the severest remark, levelled at his reputation, has been made by the emigrant Count de Rivarol, who, speaking of the decay of dramatic poetry in Paris, mentions it as a place—

“Où Chenier foule aux pieds les cendres de Voltaire.”

Chenier is, notwithstanding, a man of great talents; and is, at this moment, conductor of a new journal, entitled—*Le Conservateur de la Republique*. He is about thirty-five years of age, of short stature, rather broad set, and with a brown complexion.

THURIOT.

This Frenchman is certainly no contemptible combatant in the revolutionary struggles of his country. He made his first *legislative campaign* in the Convention, and a *bloody* one it really proved; there being no fewer than forty-one chiefs, or adherents to chiefs, slain by the national sword (*glaive national*) and upwards of an hundred and fifty imprisoned, or driven into exile.

Thuriot entered a *sans-culotte*, and has maintained his principles to this very moment, being now under the *ban* as an incurable Jacobin. Yet he never associated with Marat or Robespierre, and condemned the extravagant speeches of the one, and the destructive measures of the other; but he is a declared champion for universal suffrage in the elector, and exemption from qualification in the elected.

He says, the Revolution was designed to raise the condition of the lowest, and he will never rest till it has effected that purpose. St. Just formerly proposed an *agrarian law*, and Thuriot, Cambon, Du-

hem, and Laignelot, are said to be still in favour of such a measure; it is therefore not wonderful that they are in disgrace with the *Moderés*, and in detestation with the royalists.

Thuriot first distinguished himself as a speaker by his opposition to Condorcet's motion, May 13th, 1793, for calling a new Convention, on the ground of the imminent danger the Republic was in, and the urgent necessity of a constitution; for Condorcet perceived that his own plan, and that of the committee, of which he was a member, would be rejected.

Thuriot was an indefatigable wrestler against the Girondist faction, nor did he cease to renew his struggles every day till it was entirely thrown to the ground. He would literally beat both the air and the earth amidst his declamations, that his adversaries might have no rest.

He was rewarded for his share of this victory (if a reward it could be called) by a place in the Committee of Public Safety, which he entered upon the 10th of July, 1793. He has not, however, been accused even by those who are the most adverse to the Republic, of exercising any cruelty or oppression in that invidious situation. It is therefore most probable that should the Jacobins ever regain an ascendancy in France, Thuriot would appear at their head, being, in every sense of the word, "a man of the people."

He possesses invincible courage, and he showed it when he undertook to defend Barrere, Collot d'Herbois, and the other five members accused by Lecointre,

tre, as the tail (*la queue*) of Robespierre ; he declared, on that occasion, they had conducted themselves pursuant to the national wish, nor could they have acted otherwise without incurring its displeasure, and perhaps its punishment.

Thuriot is obliged by a decree to reside at a prescribed distance from Paris. It is certain that he is alive, and yet his *shade* is sometimes seen to skim through the streets of that city, whenever it is agitated by political disturbances.

He is about thirty-two years of age, is of a slender make, extremely impassioned in the height of debate ; and in many of his oratorical postures greatly resembles Mr. Sheridan.

MERLIN DE THIONVILLE.

Men and events have been so much involved in each other with respect to the French Revolution, that it is almost impossible to give interesting anecdotes of the one, without being forced into a brief history of the other.

The infidelity of the first generals appointed to command the Republican forces, suggested to the legislature, the necessity of commissioning, out of its own body, such individuals as were most accredited for their patriotism, to superintend the conduct of the chiefs, relieve the wants, and elevate the minds of the soldiery.

If these commissioners did not, like the consuls of Rome, act in a double capacity, their authority was at least equal ; since, on their own suspicion, they

could suspend the commanders, and put in requisition every thing needful for the public service, whether in the civil or military department.

It was Merlin's lot to be thus stationed as a commissioner in that ill-fated place *Mentz*, which was about to be again wrested from the hands of the French, who had so gallantly captured it the preceding winter.

The failure to relieve this important fortress, formed the chief accusation against the brave but unfortunate Custine, and cost him his head on the scaffold. The Convention on this occasion passed a decree of censure on the French garrison, for surrendering the town and citadel to the Prussians; but Merlin's report of their courage, and the hardships they had endured, removed the unmerited censure, and indeed their behaviour afterwards justified the eulogium the commissioner passed upon them in the legislature. He represented the scarcity of the necessaries of life, and the short allowances of bread on which the troops had subsisted for several weeks before the capitulation, and added that six livres had actually been given for a dead cat; with other afflicting recitals, of a similar kind.

The French troops, not being detained as prisoners of war, were transported in carriages across the country, at an immense expence, and under the name of *the Legion of Mentz*, finished the campaign in La Vendée.

They turned the balance decidedly in favour of the Republic, although it cost them dearly; since out of
thirteen

thirteen thousand rank and file, and only eighteen hundred lived to see their friends and their homes again!

Merlin accompanied his brave, but unfortunate, companions, on this latter expedition, nor did he leave them till they were allowed to relax from the toilsome duty which had so fatally reduced their numbers. If he did not distinguish himself like Cyrus in the field, he, at least, gained the affections of the soldiery in an equal degree, by his mild and affable behaviour. After the manner of that great prince and frugal general, he could sit down with his bread and cresses among his comrades in arms, and make a satisfactory meal.

Merlin de Thionville was averse to the Robespierrean cruelties, and on the ninth of Thermidor took a decided part against him and his abettors.

LACROIX.

The deputy Jean Francois Lacroix, accompanied Danton as a commissioner for the affairs of the Low Countries, after Dumouriez had over-run them in the autumn of 1792. He was suspected to have enriched himself, while upon that duty, by venal practices, which, however, never could be proved against him.

The event that has most distinguished him during the Revolution, and will render his name memorable for ages to come, was his motion in the Convention, on the 4th of February, 1794, *for the abolition of slavery in the French West India islands.*

After expatiating upon the troubles and calamities of that part of the state, and upon the benevolent influence of civil liberty and the equality of rights, he said, "We cannot dissemble but that in our constitution we have been egotists, and that we have forgotten the people of colour. We must rescue ourselves from the censure of posterity. We must, at length, frankly advance to the great question; and, in truth, our principles force us to it. Let us, then, declare, that *slavery is abolished in all the French colonies*—Let us decree that all men of colour are French citizens, and that they shall enjoy the blessings of the constitution we are adopting." A spontaneous rising-up of the Convention testified how congenial the proposition was to the feelings of freemen.

Lacroix, after a short and brilliant career, was charged as an accomplice with Danton, in a pretended conspiracy against the committee of *Salût Public*; and suffered death by the guillotine, on the 9th of April, 1794.

He was a native of *Pont-audemer*, and like one-fourth part of the Convention, was brought up to the law. He was forty years of age at the time of his death, of a florid complexion, and somewhat inclined to corpulency; his person altogether might not have been unaptly compared to that of the Duke of Bedford.

FRERON,

Ex-deputy to the National Convention, is a son of the famous journalist of that name, who, many
years

years ago conducted the periodical work, called *l'Année Littéraire*, well known for its eternal philippicks against Voltaire, and for the ironical repartees made by that elegant writer, in answer to the critiques which appeared in it.

Freron was early initiated by his father in literature, which he had cultivated with success in obscurity, before the Revolution took place. His popularity in the Fauxbourg St. Antoine, over the inhabitants of which section he had obtained a great ascendancy, procured him to be appointed a member of the Convention, and he may be said, jointly with the ex-capuchin Chabot, to have disposed of that suburb as it were, at pleasure.*

Freron was of the party of the Mountain, and consequently, much attached to Robespierre. Under the reign of terror, he was intrusted with a mission to Toulon, conjointly with the younger brother of the tyrant, and Barras, the present Director. From the original correspondence, since published, it appears that he took uncommon pains to form the mind of his colleague; and to initiate him *in the height of the principles*. "*We are defamed,*" said he, in one of his letters, "*as being too sanguinary. Those however who think so, ought to know, that, in Toulon, the galley slaves are the only persons who have not deserved to be shot!*"

It should not be forgotten that Freron, and Ro-

* He recruited these with considerable success for the Convention, during the insurrection of the sections, on the 12th, 13th, and 14th of Vendemaire.

Robespierre's brother, have been accused on the doubtful authority of the emigrants, of having seized for their own use all the specie they found in the houses of the Royalists at Toulon. This charge, though absolutely false with regard to one of them, was judged at the time not wholly devoid of foundation, so far as it respected Freron; since it was much talked of in the Committee of Public Safety, when preparing to take a review of the transactions of the representatives on mission. This cause, among others, tended much to accelerate the downfall of the usurper, by compelling Tallien, Freron, Barras, and many others, who did not care to have their conduct examined by the equity of Parisian tribunals, to unite their force, and bring about the Revolution of the 9th of Thermidor.

It has been frequently remarked that Robespierre, who was idolized throughout France so long as he was in power, has never had a single advocate since his death. But, what is more surprising, those who have contributed the most to inspire the nation with horror and antipathy against him, were his most intimate friends during his life. The chief leaders of the *Thermidorians* were Tallien and Freron, both moving in a line consonant to their different capacities: the former as a man active in public affairs, and the latter as a conductor of pamphlets and journals.

The periodical work, entitled *L'Orateur du Peuple*, was undertaken by Freron in the autumn of 1794, with a view to counteract and destroy the whole system

tem of public spirit which had been brought into exercise under the preceding dynasty, called *La Sans-culotterie*, and to incite the Parisian youth to a hatred and persecution of the Jacobins. No journal perhaps in so short a time ever produced such an extraordinary effect. During that winter, and in the spring of 1795, the young men, both in the metropolis and in the departments, chastised, and sometimes put to death the Jacobins wherever they found them, to the tune of *Le Reveil du Peuple*, removing also from all public places the popular statues, pictures, and emblems, and taking down the red cap, the standard of *sans-culotterie*.

This behaviour was not at all resented by Freron and the majority of the Convention, who were of his party, and consequently apprised of his intentions; it was however beheld with indignation and horror by the more energetic Republicans. The deputy Duhem openly declaimed against these irregularities, but finding his motions but little attended to, he was at length silent.

A curious anecdote deserves to be recorded *en passant*. The painter David had just presented the National Convention with a fine picture of Brutus, intreating the honour that it might be placed in the hall of their sittings. When one of the secretaries had finished reading David's letter, and a resolution had passed for the purpose, a deputy of the Mountain, called *Gaston*, with a sprightliness characteristic of his countrymen, exclaimed, "*I move, by way of amendment, that, first of all, the brilliant Freronian*

youth be consulted on the subject; if not, poor Brutus runs the risk of being kicked out of the hall in the course of a few days."

It is not to be wondered at if Freron, after all these movements, was suspected of being a Royalist, and as such courted by all persons of fashion. These were soon however undeceived. The persecution instituted by him against the Jacobins lasted only till the new constitution of 1795 was established. After that epoch Freron stopped the publication of his journals, and shewed that he was a Republican in his heart. He was highly incensed at the leaders of the people of Paris, for the ill use they had made of his name, and he co-operated effectually in the measures of the Committee of General Security, being one of those appointed to command the Conventional forces against the rebellious sections. By his exertions on the 13th Vendemaire, the stubborn district of *Le Pelletier*, called by Freron, *the head quarters of the rebels*, was effectually reduced.

After the overthrow of the sections of Paris, the National Convention took into consideration the proceedings in the south of France, where the Republicans were assassinated daily by the Royalists. Convinced that such acts of revenge were the effect of the effervescence produced in the minds of the young people by Freron's journal, and much more by the song of *Le Reveil du Peuple*, they judged it proper to send on mission into those parts, the same representative who had been, in some measure, the innocent cause of so much mischief. Freron accordingly set

set

set out for the south of France in the autumn of 1795.

This new mission of Freron proved more serviceable to the cause of the Republic than his former one. He re-established good order in Marseilles, Arles, Aix, Faramans, and in every town of Provence. He punished some juvenile leaders among the Royalists, dismissed the Constituted Authorities, which had not interfered by their exertions to prevent assassinations, arrested the soldiers who had deserted, and obliged all the young men, within the age of requisition, to repair to the armies, exacting a severe responsibility from such parents, or relations, as attempted to conceal them.

This last measure was considered as somewhat tyrannical in Paris, but Freron completely justified himself. The Abbé Suard, conductor of the *Nouvelles Politiques*, accused him of having exercised in this second pro-consulship whatever was dreaded in eastern despotism, most formidable in military regimen, and most brutal in the ci-devant *sans-culotterie*. Simeon, a Royalist deputy, and formerly an advocate in the Parliament of Aix, denounced him in the hall of the Legislative Body, as having marched during the night to Aix, at the head of a military detachment, to the *Pas de Charge*, with loaded cannon and lighted matches.

Freron was the only Conventional member of any consideration who was not elected a deputy in the subsequent legislature. This arises, perhaps, from his

his having been on his mission at the time of the elections.

He is now married to a lady of a considerable fortune, and resides in Paris, wholly retired from public business. He is about 40 years of age, of the middle size, with a thin visage.

ISNARD.

This Legislator, as deservedly celebrated for his probity and talents as for his misfortunes, was the son of a wealthy merchant of Grasse, in Provence. No instance could more strongly evince the attention bestowed in that country, on the important subject of education, in the families of private citizens, than that of Isnard. Although his father resided in a small provincial town, at a distance from any public seat of learning, yet his son was qualified for a representative of the people, under the first constitution, and rendered inferior to none of his colleagues, Vergniaud excepted, in classical attainments, and polished eloquence.

He was appointed by the department of Var a deputy to the second Legislature. Soon after the assembling of that body, he distinguished himself by an accusation which he brought against the King's Ministers, for not communicating to the Legislature the particulars of the memorable partition treaty of Pilnitz, and for not adopting such defensive measures as might defeat the projects of the associated despots.

When the insincerity of the king was supposed to
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be so notorious that the Legislative Body found it impossible to secure liberty without depriving him of his power, and in mere despair were compelled to convert France into a Republic, the people were called upon to elect a Convention, with sufficient powers to create a new Constitution. Isnard was elected to this Convention, and in the first six months was one of its most conspicuous, and at the same time, in his principles, one of its most moderate members.

He was considered as the chief of the party of the *Federalists*, which was, however, no more than a ramification of that of the *Gironde*. From motives of policy he warmly opposed the King's trial; and prophetically anticipated all the evils of which that event has been partly a consequence. "*Will you,*" said he, "*for the sake of the blood of one man, involve yourselves in a war of ten year's duration, cause the death of three millions of our brethren, and expend ten milliards of property?*"

After the King's execution, and when England and Spain had engaged in the contest, Isnard exclaimed in the Convention—"The die is cast; our lot is liberty or extermination!" Impressed with this opinion, he wrote an eloquent and pathetic exhortation to the people, the armies, and the popular societies, urging them to persevere in the war, for that in a war of freemen against slaves, the former could have little to apprehend.

On the fatal 31st of May, the day on which the violent demagogues, Robespierre, Danton, and Marat,

rat, violated the sanctuary of the National Representation, Isnard was President of the Convention. His friends had apprised him of the expected commotion; and some of his party had moved that measures of defence should be taken to preserve the integrity of the Legislature. It was in this critical situation that he made the heroic declaration—" *Let them assault me; let them surround me with their daggers; I will, notwithstanding, remain at my post, and die covered with glory, as a faithful representative!*"

The sacrifice of one life would, however, have availed nothing; and the measures of the Mountain were too prompt and vigorous to be resisted. It was fortunate for Isnard that he made his escape. His last words on this memorable day were intended to deprecate the mischiefs which he foresaw as the consequence—" *the astonished traveller shall enquire,*" said he, "*on what part of the Seine Paris existed!*" Being exiled, as well as Petion, Louvet, Buzot, and others of the same party, he was obliged to conceal himself nearly fifteen months in the house of a friend, in one of the inland departments: In this period it was generally supposed that he had perished or emigrated, and the Terrorists gave out that he had stabbed himself. When, after the 9th of Thermidor, he wrote a letter to the President Rewbell, asking leave to take his seat again in the Convention, a sudden ecstasy of joy burst through the hall, the members exclaiming—" *Our colleague, Isnard, is come back from the other world!*"

Isnard took no active part during the remainder
of

of the session of the Convention. In a mission to the department of the *Beuches du Rhone*, such had been the mischiefs perpetrated by terrorism, that he found himself inadequate to repair the evils which he every where witnessed. Under the new Constitution, he continued, during one session, a member of the Council of Five Hundred. In this Assembly he spoke but once, and his speech was an apology for his silence: When Simeon was accusing the Jacobins of the South, — “*My heart also bleeds,*” said he, “*but since, in this Assembly, I can only speak to rocks, I choose rather to be silent.*”

RABAUD ST. ETIENNE,

One of the most able and virtuous founders of the French Republic, was, before the Revolution, a Protestant minister at Nismes, in Languedoc, of which city he was a native. Though not equal in talents to Mirabeau, Barnave, and Sieyes, yet he exceeded most of his colleagues in the Constituent Assembly, in activity and enthusiasm. He was ridiculed by Mr. Burke, for his declaration, that “*all the ancient establishments were a nuisance to the people;*” and, “*in respect to the people themselves, we ought,*” added he, “*to renew their minds, to change their ideas, their laws, their manners; to alter men, things, words; in fine, to destroy every thing, that we may create every thing anew.*”

So much has already been published respecting this deputy, that little room is left to enlarge upon his character in this work; the object of which has been chiefly to publish what is not generally known.

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The violent patriotism of Rabaud is supposed to have been stimulated by the insults which, through life, as a Protestant minister, he had experienced from the Catholics. Almost every decree which was passed against the abuses of the established Hierarchy, and in favour of religious toleration, was either first moved by him, or enacted in consequence of the exertions of his eloquence.

In May 1790, he was elected President of the Assembly, and on this occasion he bore the following testimony of the triumph of reason and philosophy, over prejudice and fanaticism. "How much," said he, "would Louis the XIV. be astonished if he were to return back to the world again! What would that destroyer of the blessings bequeathed us by our good Henry say, if he beheld the National Assembly of the French people presided by a Protestant Minister? The choice, as matter of principle, does the highest honour to the Assembly; it is a new and glorious triumph of liberty, reason, and justice.—Representatives, by thus bestowing your favours upon me, you set a great example, and consecrate the sincerity and the independence of your intentions."

In 1792, he was appointed a member of the National Convention, for one of the southern departments. In that turbulent and discordant Assembly his prudence, and acknowledged good intentions, enabled him to steer clear of the war of parties; he consequently escaped in the proscriptions of the Gironde, which proved fatal to nearly all the virtue in the Convention. It could scarcely, however, be expected,

pected, that so good a man as Rabaud could shelter himself from the suspicious fury of Robespierre. Perceiving that it was impossible to evade the jealousy of the tyrant, he absented himself from the Convention, and in consequence was outlawed and declared a traitor to his country, by a decree of the 28th of July, 1793.

He continued secreted at the house of a friend in Paris till the 6th of December, when, being unfortunately arrested, and his person identified before the Revolutionary Tribunal of Paris, he was, without further ceremony, condemned to death, and guillotined on the following day, in the 50th year of his age.

GENERAL JOURDAN.

General Jourdan is a native of Limoges. It is said that he was a stationer before the Revolution; and that his wife has since kept a shop at Paris.—As both these accounts have long stood uncontradicted, there is every reason to believe them true. The same cannot be said of an absurd attempt made by the emigrants and by the enemies of France, in spite of the strongest evidence to the contrary, to identify the brave General with the ruffian known in the South of France, by the name of *Jourdain the head-loppe*r.—In the whole of his military career General Jourdan's humanity has been no less conspicuous than his courage.

Among the many services which this officer has rendered to his country, one of the most signal was the battle

battle of Maubeuge, by which he compelled the Austrians to raise the siege of that place, and put an effectual stop to Prince Cobourg's progress, which till then had appeared to be irresistible. At the very moment of victory he was dismissed by the revolutionary governors of France, who were equally jealous of great talents, and of great success. It was at once curious and deplorable to see those brutal and suspicious tyrants guillotine a General if he lost a battle, and cashier him if he triumphed over the enemies of his country.

General Jourdan was however restored to his command, and he beat Prince Cobourg again at the bloody and decisive engagement of Fleurus, remarkable for a circumstance till then unheard of in military history. While the enemy was advancing, and as long as the combat lasted, an *aeronaut*, who hovered over the heads of both armies, sent General Jourdan *bulletins*, or short notices of Prince Cobourg's movements, on scraps of paper fastened to metal rings that ran down the cords by which the balloon was retained in it's station.

Jourdan's fortune was more chequered in the campaign of 1796. After penetrating into the heart of Germany, his army was compelled to measure back its footsteps to the Rhine, in great disorder and dismay. Much blame was consequently cast upon the General's conduct, by those military critics who never fail to judge by the event, and who would have proclaimed his skill, if a different chain of accidents had crowned the self same operations with success.

During

During the late proceedings of the French Senate, General Jourdan conducted himself in such a manner as to obtain the confidence of the Directory, while his colleague, Pichegru, was condemned to transportation. In consequence of this, he has been again called into action, having set off in November for the army of the Rhine, where he undoubtedly hopes to wipe off the stain formerly occasioned by the disorganization of his army, which was infinitely more disgraceful than the loss of a pitched battle.

BARRERE.

Bertrand Barrere, with the exception of Robespierre alone, was the most conspicuous member of the famous Committee of Public Safety, which in their own opinion saved, and in that of their adversaries, ruined France.

Previously to the Revolution he was considered as a noble, being in possession of a small feudal seignory of Vieubac, situated in the department of the Eastern Pyrenees. In the early part of his life he was praised for his elegant manners, and unaffected modesty, by the celebrated Madame Genlis; and although an advocate by profession, distinguished himself more by his proficiency in *Belles Lettres* than his speeches at the bar.

His talents being acknowledged of the first rate, he was appointed, in 1789, a deputy to the Estates General. He had no sooner taken his seat than his patriotism became distinguished, and he began the publication of a periodical paper, under the title of *La Pointe du Jour*. He was a member of the Committee

mittee of *Fiefs et Domains*, and in that capacity made several interesting reports to the Assembly. Towards the close of the Session he became a writer in the *patriotic annals*, of which publication Mirabeau was the principal conductor.

He was afterwards appointed a Member of the National Convention, but took no active part till the struggle arose between the two parties, relative to the King's fate. He opposed Brissot's motion to procrastinate the trial, and was one of the first to declare, "*that the tree of liberty could never thrive, until it was sprinkled with the blood of a tyrant.*" At the time of the King's examination before the Convention, he was its President, and the person who interrogated him.

It was not till after the extinction of the Gironde party that Barrere attained his highest degree of celebrity. He then became the organ of the Committee of Public Safety in the Convention, and his reports, under the *nickname* of *Carmagnols*, excited the attention of all Europe. To recite at length the subjects of them, would occupy many pages; to publish them at length would occupy a volume.

In his situation as Chairman of the Committee, he was considered (how far justly we will not say) as the Prime Minister of Robespierre. By remaining neuter, however, in the proceedings of the 9th Thermidor, he saved his head, and even for a short time retained his popularity also. Being at length removed from the Committee of Public Safety, on the 26th of August following, he was denounced by
Lecointre;

Lecointre ; on the second of March, 1795, arrested on the motion of Legendre ; and on the 12th Germinal (April 3) sentenced, with Billaud, Varennes, Collot d'Herbois and Vadier, to be transported to Guiana in South America, by a decree of the Convention.

It is well known that Barrere contrived to make his escape, and by the connivance of the Executive Directory he still continues in France. He was indeed elected in May last a deputy to the Council of Five Hundred, but prevented from taking his seat by the clamours of the *moderés* and royalists. Since that time he has retired to his native province, and written and published two very popular pamphlets, entitled, *Montesquieu peint d'après ses ouvrages*, and *De la Pensée du Gouvernement*.

It is no slight extenuation of the various crimes in which he participated in the Committee, that notwithstanding the innumerable opportunities he had of enriching himself, he now lives in extreme poverty ; and at the time he was sent off from Paris to Rochefort, on his way to Guiana, he was compelled to borrow a trifling sum of money to enable him to purchase a few necessaries for the voyage !

It is generally admitted that Barrere was guilty of many errors, rather than of wilful crimes ; and the peculiar circumstances in which the Republic was placed, when he and his colleagues came into power, are frequently pleaded in palliation of the enormities they committed. Nothing, however, can justify them !

Bertrand

Bertrand Barrere is a man of a handsome and respectable figure, almost 40 years of age ; dresses well, and is very affable and polite in conversation. His private character has never been impeached by his most inveterate enemies ; even Mallet du Pan admits him to possess *all the social virtues*.

CAMBON,

Son of a wealthy merchant of Montpellier, was entitled, by his talents, to be a deputy for the department of the *Bouches du Rhône*, in the second Legislature. He manifested, at an early period, his attachment to the Monarchical Constitution of 1791, decreed by the preceding Assembly ; and was wholly unconnected with the Republican factions, who were preparing the overthrow of the Throne.

It is attested, by those who have attentively investigated the secret history of the 10th of August, that when the King, overwhelmed by popular fury, took refuge in the Assembly, a question arose whether, according to the Constitution, the Legislature could transact business in his presence. The leaders of the Republican party paid no great attention to the question ; but Cambon observed, *that the more critical their position, the more they ought to respect the Constitution* : and he moved, “ *that the King should be placed, according to its regulations, at the side of the President. It would be indecorous,*” added he, “ *to place him in the Tribunes, or in the seats at the extremity of the hall.*” It appears, therefore, that he was far
from

from suspecting that the King was about to be degraded and punished.

Cambon was appointed, by the same department, a deputy to the Convention. He evinced, during the new Legislature, the steadiness of his principles, and gave proof of his prudence upon the ensnaring motion for sending to the army of Custine, the *Fédérés* who had assisted the Fauxbourg St. Antoine, on the 10th of August. He violently opposed that measure, as tending to expose the Convention to the insolence of the dregs of the people; for he had had frequent occasion to lament the tyranny with which the preceding Assembly had been treated by the Fauxbourgs and the Commune, and moved therefore "that they should not leave Paris before another sufficient force was established to secure the dignity of the Legislature."

When a Republican Government was determined on, and the Constitution of 1793 accepted by the people, Cambon became a thorough Republican, and as strongly supported the new order of things, as he had before maintained the limited Monarchy. Like many others, he was fully sensible that a Republic, created by the patriots from despair, and opposed by so many foreign and domestic enemies, stood in need of rigorous and violent measures for its support. If, therefore, Robespierre and his Committee, by their critical position, were compelled (as has been pretended) to adopt terrible measures in their political and judicial proceedings, Cambon was no less under a necessity to become a Robespierre in his admini-

stration of finances. He was the inventor of the forced acceptance of the *assignats*, of the navigation act, and of the *grand livre*; the proposer of the sequestration of foreign property, of the *maximum*, and of the requisitions. These violent measures he supposed to be the only means by which the French Republic could be prevented from sinking under the excessive warfare which she was compelled to wage against all Europe.

After the fall of Robespierre, when the Thermidorian Revolution had induced a political *re-action*, Cambon, with Thuriot, manfully defended Barrere, and the other six deputies, against the 26th article of denunciation brought forward by *Lecointre de Versailles*. It was not before the month of November, 1794, that he himself was publicly attacked on the subject of the secret and confidential expences of the Committee of Public Safety. He did not vouchsafe to vindicate himself from Tallien's accusation in a regular way, his only words were—" *My head is, perhaps, consigned to the guillotine: but as to thee, tremble, villain; all France knows thee.*" Speedily afterwards, the *maximum*, the requisitions, and all the old financial laws, were repealed; and although Cambon was permitted to continue in the Committee of Finances, no attention was paid to his schemes or advice; he was, indeed, exposed to public derision, and the word *Camboniser* was invented as a term of ridicule and reproach.

The 12th of Germinal has been called the proscription of *Robespierre's tail* (*la queue de Robespierre*); and

and Cambon was, with others, decreed to be in a state of accusation; but was fortunate enough to make his escape, and take refuge in the Fauxbourg St. Antoine. To avenge himself against his enemies, he stirred up the inhabitants of that district to the famous insurrection of the first of Prairial, in which Ferrand was killed in the hall of the Convention.

During the whole summer of that year, (1795) Cambon secreted himself in the Fauxbourg, and did not appear till November, when a general amnesty had been decreed for all revolutionary crimes. He took advantage of the liberty of the press, which had been sanctioned by the Constitution, to write a judicious pamphlet, shewing that the desertion of his financial system had produced the bankruptcy of the national assignats. He soon afterwards retired to Montpellier, where he now resides, and is president of the municipality.

Cambon is about 45 years of age, of the middle stature, plain in his dress, and unaffected in his discourse. In his person, he is said to resemble that amiable and respectable man, Mr. Martin, member for Tewksbury.

GENERAL DUMOURIEZ.

The career of this officer was short, but it must be allowed to have been splendid. At one critical period he fixed the destinies of France, at another, he had nearly overturned the mighty labours of his own genius; and such is the singularity of his fortune, that he is now equally detested by the Royal-

ists, whom he opposed, and by the Republicans whom he so powerfully assisted.

Charles Francis Dumouriez was born at Cambray, in French Flanders, on the 25th of January, 1739. His father, who had served in the army during his youth, but afterwards followed the more profitable employment of a commissary, became his instructor, and seems to have been at uncommon pains relative to his education. On being sent to the college of Louis le Grand, he evinced a most ardent desire to become a Jesuit; but his friends having dissuaded him from this, he declared in favour of the law; here also he was disappointed a second time in the object of his choice; at length he became a soldier, and this, perhaps, was the profession best suited to his temper and his genius.

After serving for some time as a volunteer in the regiment of Descars, he procured a commission. On the evening before the French army was attacked at Closter Camp, by the present Duke of Brunswick,* Dumouriez happening to be out on a reconnoitering party, after a gallant resistance, was taken prisoner by the Baron de Behr, one of his aides-de-camp, and he dates his rise from this circumstance; for his Highness treated him with great respect, and actually sent him back to his general, with a letter replete with his praise. It is a curious coincidence of circumstances, that Dumouriez should

* He was at that time known by the title of HEREDITARY PRINCE OF BRUNSWICK.

command an army against his benefactor, thirty-two years afterwards, and actually oblige him to retire from Champagne.

Soon after this he obtained the *brevet* rank of a captain of horse ; but at the peace of 1763, he was dismissed, along with a multitude of other brave officers, with a *Croix de St. Louis* ; a pension, which like most of the *meritorious rewards* under the monarchy, was never paid ; and a body scarred with wounds, this young soldier having received no fewer than two and twenty !

Happening to obtain the patronage of the Duke de Choiseul, then prime minister, he travelled through Spain and Portugal, and seems to have been employed in transmitting military details relative to both these countries.

In 1768 he was recalled, and sent to Corsica, the French court at that period having dispatched an army thither, without any reasonable pretext, but merely with a view of subjugating the brave islanders, and adding their territory to the monarchy. Although Dumouriez served there as quarter-master general, and repeatedly distinguished himself by his personal bravery and military talents, he has often been heard to lament that he should have engaged in so unjust a contest.

In 1770 he was ordered to Poland by the Duke de Choiseul, and while in that country organized the troops, furnished the supplies, and regulated the affairs of the insurgents, who were openly supported

by France. On the death of his patron he was, however, recalled, and on his return to his native country, was shut up for a considerable time in the Bastille. Soon after his release he married, and resided at Cherbourg, of which he was appointed *commandant*.

Being of an active and enterprising disposition, he turned his thoughts, during the American war, to an invasion of Great Britain, and actually planned a descent on the Isle of Wight in 1778.

On the Revolution Dumouriez joined the patriots; this however does not seem to have taken place, until he perceived the imbecility of the court, and saw that the former must triumph. In consequence of his professions, he was admitted into the cabinet, and soon contrived, by means of his intrigues with the Queen, to turn out the Brissotins. After a short administration of three or four months, as Minister for Foreign Affairs, and of as many days at the head of the war department, he himself was obliged to resign, in consequence of the treachery of a great personage. On this he left Paris, joined the army, was at first treated with *hauteur* by Luckner, but at length invested with the command of the camp at Maulde, where he soon distinguished himself, by restoring discipline, and resuming offensive measures.

The conduct of Lafayette having filled the minds of the Constitutionals with a suspicion, Dumouriez, on the defection of that general, was entrusted with the command of the army, destined to save his
native

native country. With about 19,000 troops, unaccustomed to service, he took post at Grandp,é, in the forest of Argonne, and stopped the progress of the combined forces, consisting of rival nations, headed by the most celebrated general in Europe.

The famous battle of Jemappe was the first decisive victory gained by France, (for she owed her safety to the *retreat* of the grand army) and the conquest of the Austrian Netherlands followed as a matter of course. The subsequent exploits of Dumouriez were less brilliant: his victories he owes solely to himself, and his defeats are attributed by him to the minister Pache, and the deputy Cambon, the first of whom destroyed the army by withholding necessities, while the latter aroused a fatal spirit of discontent in the provinces, by the system of contributions and exactions.

At length the determined enemy of the emigrants, emigrated himself! But as he could not prevail on many of his army to accompany him, the Austrians received him very coolly.

Dumouriez now resides at Kiel, in Holstein, where he earns his bread by his pen, full as honourably as ever he did with his sword. He is engaged as one of the writers in a French journal printed in Germany, and is the author of many publications, such as *Tableau Speculatif de l'Europe*, a History of his own Life, in three volumes, 8vo. an Account of Portugal, 4to. a Pamphlet in Reply to Camus, a Political View of France, a Letter to the translator of his Life, and a

Dialogue between Billaud de Varenne and Barthélemy, the Director, respecting the Defection of the latter. The Parisian wits, alluding to his own history, observe, that “treachery and treason are traced in this performance with the hand of a master!” However, with all his errors and all his faults, posterity will probably consider Dumouriez as a great man.

GENERAL HOCHÉ.

When we contemplate his birth, his education, and his family, on one hand, and reflect on the high situation to which he rose, on the other, it will require little hesitation to pronounce this general one of the most fortunate men of our own, or perhaps any age.

The father of Lazare Hoche occupied a menial station about the hounds of Louis XV.; he himself was born June 14th, 1768, and his mother dying soon after, his situation became extremely critical, for the remaining parent was unable to give him any education. An aunt, who kept a green-stall, at length undertook to bring him up; but he was so wild as to reap very little benefit from a day-school, to which he had been sent. At length, a clergyman taking a fancy to him, he became a chorister; but that not suiting his disposition, he found means to procure a place in the royal stables, as under groom.

At that period some books of a romantic cast happened to fall in his way, and he conceived the idea of repairing to the East Indies, with a view of bettering

tering his fortune. After experiencing a disappointment, in respect to this favourite object, he at length enlisted in the French Guards, and became a soldier.

The exercise, &c. so difficult to other recruits, soon became familiar to him; he was considered as one of the most spruce grenadiers of the whole battalion; and, in a short time, was employed as a drill serjeant, for which situation he was now admirably qualified. In fine, he attained such eminence, and displayed so much skill, that he was pitched upon to teach the new manœuvres to his companions. The first share that the French Guards had in the Revolution, is well known to every body. Hoche, like the rest of his fellow soldiers, found his pulse beat high at the magical sound of liberty, and he became first one of the assailants, and, finally, one of the victors of the Bastille. This event did not hurt his preferment, for on the new organization of the army by Lafayette, we find him promoted to an adjutancy.

Soon after this he distinguished himself so much during a review, that the *War Minister made him a lieutenant in the regiment of Roergue. He was stationed in Thionville, during the siege of that town; and, if we are to credit report, performed prodigies of valour on that occasion.

Happening to be sent with the dispatches from General Laveneur, to the Executive Council at Paris, he displayed such talents and penetration, that

* Servan.

it was determined to promote him to a higher rank. He accordingly became captain, lieutenant-colonel, and adjutant-general in proceſſion, and in the laſt capacity was diſpatched to Dunkirk, at that time beſieged by the Duke of York.

The representatives then on miſſion inſtantly elevated him to the rank of *chef de brigade*, and he was entrusted with the ſuperintendence of the camp of Roſendall. There, as before, he acquired the confidence of his ſuperiors, and after obtaining a commiſſion as general of diviſion, at the age of 25, he was nominated to the command of the army of the Moſelle.

In this ſituation it was his fortune to be oppoſed by the Duke of Brunſwick, formerly celebrated as the greateſt warrior of modern times; but Hoche paſſed the Sarre, in the face of his army, and taught him, on the heights of Kayſerſlautern, that a man, young enough in point of years to be his grandſon, was not his inferior in the art of war.

After raiſing the blockade of Landau, hopes were held out to the victor, of being placed at the head of the army of Italy; but he had incurred the ſuſpicion of St. Juſt and Robeſpierre, and, having been arreſted by ſtratagem, was conducted a priſoner to Paris.

After a long and rigorous confinement, the *Thermidorian Revolution* at length occurred, and Hoche, with a multitude of other brave men, was ſet free. He was nearly at the ſame time appointed to the command of the army of Cherbourg, and gave ſo much

ſatis-

satisfaction in that station, that he was considered as the proper person to put an end to the war of *La Vendée*. Being invested with this important mission, he now acquired as much glory by his humanity, as he had formerly done by his valour. He began by restoring discipline to his troops, and confidence to the unhappy natives; and he ended by completely subduing all the rebellious chieftains. That his measures were efficacious on this occasion, the subsequent conduct of the inhabitants, and present quiet of the insurgent departments demonstrate, beyond the possibility of a doubt.

It was also the misfortune of the unhappy emigrants, who landed at Quiberon, that he was opposed to them; humanity will not permit the dwelling on the catastrophe that ensued!

After this, a new career of glory opened before him. He was advanced first to the command of the army of the Sambre and Meuse, and then to that of the Rhine and Moselle. The invasion of the sister kingdom, had always been a favourite object with him, and he at length formed "the army of Ireland." Nay, he actually embarked on an expedition against that island, but, happily for this country, never landed there; for a violent tempest scattered his fleet, and put an end to his projects.

Soon after this, he was appointed Secretary at War, and took an active part in what has been termed the *Fruelidorian Revolution*.

His last command was that of the army of the Rhine,

Rhine, where he was seized with a mortal disorder, that put a period to his life on the 30th Fructidor, 1797.

The funeral of Hoche has not been equalled, in point of grandeur, perhaps, in modern times. Two rival armies, those of Austria and France, assisted at the ceremony. Six standards, carried by chosen officers, exhibited the catalogue of his exploits; crowns of oak and of laurel were placed upon his coffin; the cannon of the camps and fortresses announced the doleful ceremony; Lefebvre, Championnet, and Grenier, delivered orations over the dead body; while, to conclude the whole, a simple grenadier, starting from the ranks, and extending his arm, threw a garland into the grave, exclaiming at the same time:

“Hoche! I present you this, in the name of the army, whom you taught to conquer.”

THE END OF VOL. I.

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